AN

# INTRODUCTION

TO

*Mr. PINKERTON's ABRIDGMENT*

OF HIS

# MODERN GEOGRAPHY,

FOR

*THE USE OF SCHOOLS;*

ACCOMPANIED WITH

## OUTLINE MAPS,

ADAPTED TO THIS INTRODUCTION, AND SUITED
TO OTHER GEOGRAPHICAL WORKS;

FORMING

## A COMPLETE JUVENILE ATLAS.

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BY JOHN WILLIAMS.

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# PREFACE.

SOME explanation of the motive of this publication may be necessary, when so many similar works are already in general circulation. Perhaps the numerous introductions to the study of geography, which are daily ushered from the press, afford a presumption, that a work of this nature is superfluous. Most of those which have fallen into the hands of the writer appear to be too concise to interest the pupil, or, by embracing subjects, which do not properly fall within the design, to be so diffuse and tedious as to discourage the young enquirer. While so many are expressing their dissatisfaction with the rudiments of this science, as they have hitherto been delineated by various writers, it may not be a very unfounded conclusion, that something is still wanting to meet the general views and wishes of those, who consult the taste and improvement of their pupils. Such was the impression upon the mind of the editor when he commenced this abridgment. The merit which had been generally allowed to

Mr. Pinkerton's Modern Geography, suggested the propriety of making that the ground work of an elementary volume, which should be sufficiently concise to encourage the learner, yet so far descriptive as to answer the purposes of instruction and amusement. Mr. Pinkerton's excellent abridgment of his Modern Geography obtained a ready admittance into most schools, and is certainly a very valuable book to put into the hands of pupils of the senior classes; but a work of a smaller size seemed desirable for the use of younger scholars. With this view, it appeared that the language of the Author already mentioned should be retained, as the transition to the use of the larger abridgment would then be more easy and pleasant to the pupil. The liberality of the Proprietors of Mr. Pinkerton's work has enabled the editor of "The Introduction," to adopt this plan. His design has been to select those subjects only, which are strictly geographical, with the exception of the articles Religion and Government, which seemed too important to be omitted. He has availed himself of the corrections of the enlarged edition of "Modern Geography," and trusts, that this epitome has been executed with a degree of care and precision, that will meet the wishes and approbation of the public, and of

those

those who are employed in the instruction of youth.

In the errata the editor has endeavoured to correct some of the principal of those mistakes which escaped his notice as the work passed through the press.

A few typographical errors remain, which may easily be corrected by the teacher, and require the indulgence of the critic.

To render this work more useful as an elementary book, the publishers have readily consented to connect with it a complete set of Outline Maps, in which the modern boundaries of states and kingdoms, the situation of the chief towns, the course of the rivers, and the direction of the mountains are correctly delineated, by the use of which the pupil will be familiarized to the leading features of the map, without the assistance of names to direct the eye, and will acquire more precise and definite ideas of the natural and political divisions of the earth, and of the relative situation of those immense oceans, and numerous seas and rivers by which they are bounded, than can be derived from maps on the usual plan.

The learner must be well acquainted with these in order to give a satisfactory description of them to his teacher; and the assistance of other maps will only be

necessary when the outlines are first explained to the pupil.

It is an advantage of these Maps, that they may be adapted to the larger abridgment, or to any other introductory geographical work, and may be filled up with circular marks, designating the situation of cities and towns, as the knowledge of the pupil is extended.

In the present unsettled state of the European continent it has been no easy matter to ascertain the precise boundaries of some states and kingdoms. Since this work has been committed to the press, passing events have rendered some slight alterations necessary in the descriptions introduced into it; but these will easily be made by the teacher. In the Maps such variations may be conveniently marked; and, it is hoped, the general plan will be found perspicuous and useful.

*Halifax, September* 1, 1808.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS.

DEFINITIONS OF GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS, p. 1.
THE WORLD, p. 3.—*Divisions, Eastern and Western Continents, Four Quarters, Population, Pacific, Atlantic, Indian, Arctic and Antarctic Oceans.*
EUROPE. General view of, p. 5.—*Situation, Boundaries, Extent, Inland Seas, Islands, Mountains, Rivers, Lakes, Governments, Arrangement, Religion.*
ENGLAND, p. 11.—*Extent, Boundaries, Population, Figure, Bays, Capes, Divisions, Circuits, Cities and Towns, Mountains, Rivers, Religion, Universities, Government, Royal Titles, Isles.*
SCOTLAND, p. 25.—*Figure, Boundaries, Extent, Population, Divisions, Cities and Towns, Mountains, Rivers, Lakes, Religion, Universities, Government, Isles.*
IRELAND, p. 36.—*Situation and Extent, Provinces, Counties, Cities and Towns, Mountains, Rivers, Loughs, Religion, Universities, Government.*
FRANCE, p. 42.—*Boundaries and Extent, Population, Departments, Cities and Towns, Mountains, Rivers, Universities, Religion, Government, Isles.*
RUSSIA, p. 55.—*Extent, Divisions, Population, Situation, Cities and Towns, Mountains, Rivers, Lakes, Universities, Religion, Government, Isles.*
AUSTRIA, p. 61.—*Dominions, Boundaries, Extent and Population, Divisions, Cities and Towns, Mountains, Rivers, Lakes, Universities, Religion, Government.*
PRUSSIA, p. 67.—*Boundaries, Extent and Population, Provinces, Cities and Towns, Mountains, Rivers, Lakes, Universities, Religion, Government.*
SPAIN, p. 72.—*Situation and Extent, Population, Divisions,*

*sions, Cities and Towns, Mountains, Rivers Universities, Religion, Government, Isles.*

TURKEY IN EUROPE, p. 79.—*Extent, Boundaries, Population, Divisions, Cities and Towns, Mountains, Rivers, Religion, Government, Islands.*

HOLLAND, p. 86.—*Situation and Extent, Divisions, Population, Cities and Towns, Mountains, Rivers, Lakes, Universities, Religion, Government.*

DENMARK, p. 89.—*Extent, Boundaries, Divisions, Population, Cities, Mountains, Rivers, Lakes, Universities, Religion, Government, Islands, Iceland.*

SWEDEN, p. 95.—*Extent, Divisions, Population, Cities and Towns, Mountains, Rivers, Lakes, Universities, Religion, Government, Pomerania, Swedish Isles.*

PORTUGAL, p. 99.—*Boundaries and Extent, Population, Divisions, Cities and Towns, Mountains, Rivers, Lakes, Religion, Government.*

SWITZERLAND, p. 102.—*Boundaries, Extent, Population, Divisions, Cities and Towns, Mountains, Rivers, Lakes, Religion, Government; Vallais.*

ITALY, p. 107.—*Divisions, Boundaries, Extent, Population, Northern Part, Provinces and chief Towns; Central Part, Divisions and Towns; Southern Part, Naples and Sicily, Cities, Mountains, Volcanoes, Scylla and Charybdis, Rivers, Lakes, Religion, Government, Isles, Venetian; Dalmatia, Ragusa.*

GERMANY, p. 119.—*Extent, Population, Divisions, States North of the Mayn, Cities, Southern States, Cities and Towns, Mountains, Rivers, Lakes, Universities, Religion, Government.*

ASIA, p. 127.—*Situation, Boundaries, Extent, Divisions, Inland Seas, Mountains, Rivers, Religion, Government.*

TURKEY IN ASIA, p. 131.—*Boundaries, Extent, Population, Divisions, Cities and Towns, Mountains, Rivers, Lakes, Islands.*

RUSSIA IN ASIA, p. 137.—*Extent, Boundaries, Divisions, Population, Cities and Towns, Mountains, Rivers, Lakes, Religion, Government, Islands.*

CHINESE EMPIRE, p. 141.—*Extent, Divisions.*
CHINA PROPER, p. 142.—*Extent, Boundaries, Population, Divisions, Cities, Mountains, Rivers, Lakes, Religion, Government, Isles.*
CHINESE TATARY, p. 146.—*Extent, Boundaries, Population, Divisions, Cities, Mountains, Rivers, Lakes, Religion, Government; Island of Sagalian or Tchoka.*
TIBET, p. 150.—*Extent, Divisions, Cities, Mountains, Rivers, Lakes, Religion, Government.*
JAPAN, p. 152.—*Extent, Islands, Population, Cities, Mountains, Rivers, Lakes, Religion, Government.*
BIRMAN EMPIRE, p. 155.—*Extent, Boundaries, Population, Cities, Mountains, Rivers, Religion, Government.*
MALAYA OR MALACCA, p. 157.—*Extent, Divisions, Cities, Andaman and Nicobar Isles.*
SIAM, p. 159.—*Boundaries, Extent, Population, Divisions, Cities and Towns, Rivers, Mountains, Religion, Government.*
HINDOSTAN, p. 160.—*Extent, Boundaries, Divisions, Countries on the Ganges, on the Sindé or Indus, Middle Provinces, Population, Cities and Towns, Mountains, Rivers, Religion, Government.*
CEYLON, p. 172.—*Extent, Towns, Mountains, Rivers, Pearl Fishery, Religion; Lacadives, Maldives.*
PERSIA, p. 174.—*Extent, Divisions, Population, Cities, Mountains, Rivers, Lakes, Religion, Government.*
INDEPENDENT TATARY, p. 179.—*Extent; Kirgusses, Divisions, Population, Kharism, Extent; Great Bucharia, Extent, Boundaries, Cities; Little Bucharia, Boundaries, Extent, Population, Cities, Mountains, Rivers, Lakes, Religion, Government.*
ARABIA, p. 185.—*Divisions, Boundaries, Extent, Cities, Mountains, Rivers, Lakes, Religion, Government, Islands.*
ASIATIC ISLANDS, p. 188.—*Isles of Sunda, Borneo, Manillas or Philippine Islands, Celebezean Isles, Spice Islands, Moluccas.*

AUSTRALASIA,

AUSTRALASIA, p. 196.—*New Holland, Papua or New Guinea, New Britain, New Ireland, Solomon Islands, New Caledonia, New Hebudes, New Zeeland, Van Diemen's Land.*

POLYNESIA, p 200.—*Pelew Islands, Ladrones, Carolines, Sandwich Islands, Marquesas, Society Isles, Easter Island, Friendly Islands.*

AFRICA, p. 205.—*Extent, Figure, Situation, Inhabitants, Population, Mountains, Deserts, Rivers, Lakes, Religion, General Divisions.*

ABYSSINIA, p. 208.—*Extent, Boundaries, Divisions, Cities, Population, Mountains, Rivers, Lakes, Religion, Government.*

EGYPT, p. 209.—*Extent, Population, Cities, Mountains, Rivers, Lakes, Climate, Religion, Government; Ethiopia.*

MAHOMETAN STATES, p. 211.—*Tripoli, Tunis, Algiers, Morocco, Cities, Inhabitants.*

WESTERN COAST, p. 214.—*Jalofs, Foulahs, Benin, Loango, Congo, River Zahir.*

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, p. 216.—*Extent, Mountains, Rivers, Inhabitants.*

EASTERN COAST, p. 217.—*Delagoa, Macaranga, Zambeza, Mozambique, Zanguebar, Quiloa, Mombaza, Melinda, Ajan, Brava, Magadasho, Adel.*

INTERIOR OF AFRICA, p. 219.—*Ludamar, Benown, River Nigir, Mountains of Kumri, Darfur, Kordofan, Afnou, Gnum-gnum.*

ISLE OF MADAGASCAR, p. 221.—*African Islands, Pemba, Comoro Isles, Mauritius, Bourbon, St. Helena, Ascension Isle, St. Thomas, Prince's Island, Fernando Po, Cape Verd Islands, Canary Islands, Maderia, Azores.*

AMERICA, General View of, p. 224.—*Extent, Divisions.*

NORTH AMERICA, p. 225.—*Boundaries, Divisions, Population, Inland seas, Lakes, Rivers, Mountains, Religion.*

UNITED STATES, p. 230.—*Boundaries, Extent, Divisions, Cities, Population, Mountains, Rivers, Lakes, Religion, Government.*

SPANISH DOMINIONS, p. 235.—*Boundaries and Extent, Divisions, Cities, Population, Mountains, Rivers, Lakes, Religion, Government.*

BRITISH POSSESSIONS, p. 240.—*Canada, Extent, Divisions, Cities and Towns, Population, Mountains, Rivers, Religion, Government; New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Island of Cape Breton, Newfoundland, Bermudas or Sommer Islands.*

NATIVE TRIBES, p. 246 —*Greenland, Labrador, Hudson's Bay, Central Parts, Western Coast.*

AMERICAN ISLANDS, OR WEST INDIES, p. 251.—*Cuba, St. Domingo, Jamaica, Porto Rico, Caribbee Islands, Trinidad.*

SOUTH AMERICA, p. 255.—*Extent, Population, Mountains, Rivers, Lakes, Religion.*

SPANISH DOMINIONS, p. 259.—*Extent, Boundaries, Divisions; La Plata, Extent, Population, Divisions, Cities and Towns; Peru, Boundaries, Divisions, Cities and Towns, Government; New Granada, Extent, Divisions, Cities and Towns, Rivers, Government; Caracas, Divisions, Cities and Towns, Rivers, Lakes, Religion, Government; Guiana, Spanish Guiana, Boundaries, Chief City, Rivers.*

CHILI, p. 269.—*Extent and Divisions; Araucana, Extent and Boundaries, Divisions, Cities, Religion, Government; Spanish Chili, Extent and Divisions, Cities, Mountains, Rivers and Lakes, Minerals, Religion, Government.*

PORTUGUESE TERRITORY, p 274.—*Brazil, Divisions, Population, Cities, Rivers and Mountains, Religion, Government.*

GUIANA, p. 276.—*Extent; French and Dutch Guiana.*

NATIVE TRIBES, p. 278.—*Apibons, Worros, Aruacs, Puelches.*

SOUTH AMERICAN ISLANDS, p. 279.—*Juan Fernandez, Chiloe, St. Martin, Terra del Feugo, Statenland, Falkland Isles, Georgia, Southern Thule.*

# ERRATA.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| PAGE 4. line 7. | FOR sixty, | READ twenty-five. |
| —— 7. l. 9. b. * ubique. | — Frith | —— Firth |
| —— 9. l. 14. | — Italy, | —— France. |
| —— 11. l. 3. | — $52\frac{1}{2}$, | —— $58\frac{1}{2}$. |
| —— 24. l. 10. | — la Hogne, | —— la Hogue. |
| —— 34. l. 16. b. | — Sky, | —— Skey. |
| —— 39. l. 10. | — Turam, | —— Tuam. |
| —— —— l. 2. b. dele Novogorod. | | |
| —— 66. l. 19 | — Neusilder, | —— Neusidler. |
| —— 81. l. 46. | — Sosia, | —— Sofia. |
| —— 100. last line | — Estremadura, | —— Entre Duro-e-Minho. |
| —— 104. l. 16. | — Brunner, | —— Brenner. |
| —— 137. l. 9. b. | — 190°. | —— 150°. |
| —— 169. l. 8. | — Marratta, | —— Maratta. |
| —— 172. l. 9. b. READ, in the island. | | |
| —— 176. l. 13. b. | — Faristan, | —— Farsistan. |
| —— 183. l. 8. | — Yarkhand, | —— Yarkand. |
| —— 219. l. 13. b. | — described, | —— descried. |
| —— 231. l. 2. b. | — Agusta, | —— Augusta. |
| —— last line, | — Tenesse, | —— Tenessee. |
| —— 251. l. 4. | — Carribbee, | —— Caribbee. |
| —— 260. l. 2. b. | — nearly equal, | —— regular. |
| —— 267. l. 4. | — or, | —— on. |
| —— 276. l. 8. b. | — Tumucurag, | —— of Tumucurag. |

* b. *Signifies from the bottom.*

# GEOGRAPHY.

## *DEFINITIONS.*

GEOGRAPHY is a description of the globe, or known habitable world, and of its parts, limits, and other remarkable things relating to it.

THE FIGURE of the earth is that of a globe or sphere, the circumference of which, or a line surrounding its surface, measures about twenty-five thousand miles: the diameter, or a line drawn through the centre, from one side to the other, is nearly eight thousand miles. The whole is considered as a body of land and water.

The parts of land are continents, islands, peninsulas, isthmuses, promontories, capes, coasts, and mountains.

A CONTINENT is a large portion of land containing several regions or kingdoms, which are not entirely separated by seas; as Europe, Asia, Africa, and America.

AN ISLAND is a tract of land surrounded by water; as Great Britain, Ireland, and Iceland.

A PENINSULA is a tract of land surrounded by water, except at one narrow neck, by which it joins to the neighbouring continent; as the Morea in Greece; the Crimea in Tartary.

AN ISTHMUS is that neck of land, which joins a peninsula to the continent; as Corinth, in Greece; and Precop, in Tartary.

A PROMONTORY is an elevated point of land stretching itself into the sea, the end of which is called A CAPE; as the Cape of Good Hope, and Cape Verd, in Africa; and Cape Horn, in South America.

A COAST is that part of the land, which is contiguous to the sea or ocean. The narrow border which repels the waters, is called the SHORE.

MOUNTAINS are elevated portions of land, towering above the neighbouring country, and are either detached; as Montserrat, in Spain; or extended in chains or ridges; as the Apennines, in Italy; the Pyrenees, between France and Spain; and the Andes, in South America.

The parts into which the waters are distributed are oceans, seas, lakes, straits, gulphs, bays, creeks, and rivers.

AN OCEAN is a vast collection of water, which overspreads a considerable part of the globe, and is bounded in certain directions by some of the grand divisions of the earth; as the Pacific, Atlantic, and Indian Oceans.

A SEA is a smaller collection of water communicating with the ocean; as the Mediterranean, the Baltic, and the Red Seas.

A LAKE is a collection of water surrounded by land; as the lake of Geneva, lake Constance, and the lakes of Switzerland, in Europe; and the lakes of Canada, in North America.

A STRAIT is a narrow part of the sea restrained between two shores, and opening a passage from one sea into another; as the strait of Gibraltar, between Spain and Africa. It is sometimes called A SOUND; as the entrance into the Baltic.

A GULPH

A GULPH is a part of the sea running up into the land, and surrounded by it, except at the passage by which it communicates with the sea or ocean; as the gulphs of Bothnia and Finland, at the extremity of the Baltic; and the gulph of Mexico, between North and South America.

If a gulph be very large it is called an INLAND SEA; as the Adriatic sea, or gulph of Venice, between Italy and Turkey.

If the water do not penetrate far into the land it is styled A BAY; as the bay of Biscay, between France and Spain.

A small bay is called a CREEK or HAVEN; as Milford haven, Pembrokeshire.

A RIVER is a body of water rising in the land, and flowing into the sea; as the Thames, in England; the Tiber, in Italy; and the Nile, in Egypt.

# OF THE WORLD.

THE LAND is divided into two great continents, besides islands, the eastern and the western continents. The former of these only was known to the ancients, and that but very imperfectly: to the latter, the discovery of Christopher Columbus, may now be added the wide extent of New Holland and the isles of the Pacific, to the south east, the more recent discoveries of the immortal Cook, which might properly be denominated a new and specific division of the globe.

THE EASTERN CONTINENT comprehends Europe, on the north west; Asia, on the north east;

and Africa, joined to Asia by the isthmus of Suez, which is only sixty miles in breadth, on the south.

THE WESTERN CONTINENT consists of North and South America, united by the isthmus of Darien, which, in the narrowest part, is only sixty miles across from ocean to ocean.

Europe, Asia, Africa, and America, with some impropriety, are denominated THE FOUR QUARTERS OF THE WORLD. They differ greatly from each other in extent of country, in the nature of the climate, and the productions of the soil; in the manners, complexion, and character of their inhabitants; and in their forms of government, their national customs, and religion.

THE POPULATION of these grand divisions of the globe is by no means equal and proportionate. Asia, which has always been considered as the quarter first occupied by the human race, is supposed to contain about 500,000,000 of inhabitants. The population of Africa may be 30,000,000; of America, 20,000,000; and 150,000,000 are assigned to Europe; whilst New Holland and the isles of the Pacific probably do not contain above half a million.

The immense cavities, which lie between these great continents, are filled by the immeasurable waters of the Pacific, the Atlantic, and the Indian Oceans, and of the seas about the Poles.

THE PACIFIC OCEAN occupies nearly half the surface of the globe, from the eastern shores of New Holland to the western coasts of America. Separately considered, the Pacific receives but few rivers, the chief being the Amur from Tartary, and the Hoan Ho, and Kian Ku, from China; while the principal rivers of America run towards the east.

THE ATLANTIC OR WESTERN OCEAN, which is the next in importance, divides the old continent from the new.

THE INDIAN OCEAN lies between the East Indies and Africa.

The seas between the arctic and antarctic circles and the poles, have been styled the ARCTIC and ANTARCTIC OCEANS; the latter, indeed, being only a continuation of the Pacific, Atlantic, and Indian Oceans; while the Arctic sea is partly embraced by continents, and receives many important rivers.

# EUROPE.

EUROPE, though the least extensive, is in many respects that quarter of the globe, which deserves the greatest attention. It affords the most striking features of character, government, and manners; and from its history is derived the greatest number of facts for entertainment and instruction: but the circumstances, which perhaps have had a considerable share in giving Europe the superiority over the rest of the world, are the happy temperature of its climate, the great variety of its surface, and the number and extent of its inland seas.

SITUATION.—This grand division of the earth is situated between the 10th degree west and the 60th degree east longitude from London; and between the 36th and 72nd degree of north latitude.

BOUNDARIES.—Europe is bounded by the Arctic ocean, on the north, embracing the remote

isles of Spitzbergen and Novaya Zemlia, or the New land; by the Mediterranean sea, on the south, which divides it from Africa; by the Atlantic ocean on the west, which contains the farthest European isle, that of Iceland; Greenland, most probably insular, though not so delineated on our globes, being regarded as part of North America: the Uralian mountains, the river Kama, the Volga, and the Don, form a pretty exact boundary on the east, and separate Europe from Asia.

Extent.—Europe extends about 3,300 miles in length, from the Portuguese cape, styled by our mariners the Rock of Lisbon, in the west, to the Uralian mountains, in the east; and the breadth from Cape Nord, in Danish Lapland, to Cape Matapan, the southern extremity of Greece, is about 2,350 miles.

Inland seas.—Among the inland seas which a general view of Europe presents, the Mediterranean is justly pre-eminent. The Rock of Abyla, now called Ceuta, on the African shore, and Kalpé in Spain, the Gibraltar of modern fame, anciently called the pillars of Hercules, mark its western boundary; and the coast of Syria limits its farthest extremity to the east, comprehending an extent of about 2,000 miles. On its northern side open two immense gulphs, the gulph of Venice, and the Archipelago; the former being the Adriatic, and the latter the Egean sea of the ancients. From this last a strait called the Hellespont, conducts to the sea of Mamora, the classical Propontis; and another, now styled the strait of Constantinople, the ancient Thracian Bosphorus, leads to the Euxine or Black sea; this again is connected by the strait of Kaffa, on the north, with the shallow

shallow Palus Mœotis, or the sea of Azov, the utmost maritime limit of Europe in that quarter.

The second inland sea of Europe is the Baltic. This extensive inlet opens from the German sea, by a gulph pointing N. E. called the Skager Rack, to which succeeds the Cattegat, on the south, terminating to the S. E. in the sound of Elsinore, in passing which strait foreign vessels pay a tribute of courtesy to Denmark. The Baltic afterwards spreads widely to the N. E. and is divided into two extensive branches, called the gulphs of Bothnia and Finland, both covered or impeded with ice for four or five months of the northern winter.

The third inland sea is the White sea, in the north of Russia, more known in Europe before the commerce of Archangel was supplanted by that of Petersburg.

Among the other maritime divisions may be named the German sea, so called, because it waters the western shores of ancient Germany. It is now often improperly styled the North sea. It may be regarded as part of the Atlantic ocean, terminating at the straits of Dover; whence the British channel extends to the west.

The Bay of Biscay is another large inlet of the Atlantic.

The Bristol channel is rather the estuary or wide frith of the Severn.

Between Britain and Ireland are St. George's channel, on the south, and the Irish sea, in the centre, which leads to the North channel.

That part of the Atlantic, which passes between Scotland and the extreme range of the western isles, from Barra to Leuis, has received no distinct appellation, though it might aptly be styled the Hebudian channel.

ISLANDS.—The islands of the Mediterranean sea, are Majorca, Minorca, and Eviza, subject to Spain; Corsica, subject to France; Sardinia, formerly attached to Piedmont, and giving title to the king of Sardinia; Sicily, subject to Sicily; Corfu, Cefalonia, and Zante, on the western coast of Greece, now ceded to France; Negropont, on the east; Candia, anciently Crete; Rhodes; and Cyprus, near the coast of Syria, subject to Turkey.

The islands of the Baltic sea, are Zealand, Funen, Alsen, Falster, Langland, Laland, Femeren, Mona, and Bornholm, subject to Denmark; Gothland, Oeland, Aland, and Rugen, subject to Sweden; Osel and Dagho, to Russia; and Usedom and Wollin, to Prussia.

The islands of the White sea are numerous, but little known.

MOUNTAINS.—The chief mountains of Europe are the immense range, which divides Norway and Sweden; the Alps, between France, Switzerland, and Italy; the Pyrenean hills, between France and Spain; the Apennines, through Italy; Mount Krapac, or the Carpathian mountains, to the north of Hungary; and the Uralian mountains, between Russia and Siberia.

The Volcanoes or burning mountains are Heckla, in Iceland; Vesuvius, in Naples; and Etna in Sicily.

RIVERS.—The principal rivers of Europe are the Thames, the Severn, the Trent, the Humber, and the Ouse, in England; the Forth, and the Clyde, in Scotland; the Dee, in Wales; the Shannon, in Ireland; the Loire, the Seine, the Rhone, and the Garrone, in France; the Deuro, and the Tagus, through Spain and Portugal; the Ebro, in Spain; the Rhine, between France, Germany, and the United Provinces; the Moselle,

selle, and the Maese, falling into the Rhine on the west; the Elbe, in Germany; the Oder, in Prussia; the Vistula, through Austria and that part of Prussia, which formerly belonged to the kingdom of Poland; the Danube, through Germany, Austria, and Turkey; the Nieper or Boristhenes, in the south of Russia; the Petchora, in the north; and the Don and the Wolga, between Europe and Asia.

Lakes.—The most considerable lakes in Europe are Wener and Weter, in the south of Sweden; Ladoga, Onega, and Pepus, in Russia; the lake of Geneva, between Switzerland and Italy; lake Constance, between Switzerland and Germany; Thun, Lucerne, Zurich, and Neufchatel, in Switzerland; and Como, and Maggiorre, in the north of Italy.

Governments.—The kingdoms and states of Europe may be considered, 1st. as despotic monarchies, as those of Russia and Turkey; 2nd. absolute monarchies, as Spain, Denmark, &c. 3d. limited monarchies, as the kingdom of Great Britain, &c. Since the fall of Venice and the subversion of Switzerland and Holland, scarcely an example occurs of permanent and fixed aristocracy, or the hereditary government of nobles. Of democracy no semblance is preserved; while France, at the present *hour*, is a military despotism, assuming the distinction of an empire.

Divisions.—The kingdoms of Europe may be distributed into those of the first, second, and third orders, according to their extent or importance. These, with the names of the chief cities, are exhibited in the following table.

*First*

*First Order.*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Great Britain and Ireland, | London. Dublin. | Austria, | Vienna. |
| | | Prussia, | Berlin. |
| France, | Paris. | Spain, | Madrid. |
| Russia, | Petersburg. | Turkey, | Constantinople. |

*Second Order.*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Holland, | Amsterdam. | Portugal, | Lisbon. |
| Denmark, | Copenhagen. | Switzerland, | Berne. |
| Sweden, | Stockholm. | Italy, | Venice. |

*Third Order.*

The States of Germany; Sicily; and Sardinia.

Without determining the precise rank of any particular state in each order, this arrangement will be observed in describing the several kingdoms of Europe, giving the precedence to Great Britain, justly pre-eminent, in point of interest, as our native land, and as it is distinguished by its relative importance among the powers of this and every other quarter of the globe.

RELIGION.—The Christian religion is established through every part of Europe, except Turkey; but it is divided into different denominations, generally comprehended under these three; the Greek Church, Popery, and Protestantism; which last is again divided into Lutheranism and Calvinism, so called from Luther and Calvin, the distinguished reformers of the sixteenth century.

ENGLAND.

# ENGLAND.

EXTENT.—The island of Great Britain, which is the largest of the European isles, extends from 50 to 52½ degrees of N. latitude, being of course about 500 geographical miles in length. In British miles the length may be computed at 580, and the breadth at 370.

BOUNDARIES.—England, including Wales, is the largest and most southern part of the island. On the north it is separated from Scotland by Solway Frith, the Cheviott Hills, and the river Tweed; on the east it is bounded by the German sea; on the west by St. George's channel; and on the south by the English channel, which divides it from France; being surrounded by the sea, except at that part by which it joins with a narrow neck to Scotland.

POPULATION.—The population of England and Wales is estimated at nine millions and a half.

FIGURE.—The general figure of England is triangular, with one point to the N. another to the E. and another to the W. of its three sides the western is the longest.

If a straight line be drawn from Berwick upon Tweed to the Land's end in Cornwall, it will give for the western side 425 miles; the same drawn to the south Foreland in Kent, will give for the eastern side, 345 miles; and the triangle completed by a line from the south Foreland to the

the Land's end, will have a southern side of 340 miles. But these measurements would amount to much more, if the windings of the sea coast were included.

BAYS.—The principal inlets on the east, are the Humber, the Wash, and the mouth of the Thames; on the west, Solway Firth, Cardigan bay, and the Bristol channel; on the south, Mount's bay, Falmouth haven, Torbay, Poole harbour, Southampton creek, and the harbour of Portsmouth.

CAPES.—The capes are Flamborough head, Spurn head, and North and South Foreland, on the east; St. Bee's head, Holyhead, Brachy Pwll point, St. David's head, and Land's end, on the west; Lizard point, Start point, Portland, Beachy head, and Dungeness, on the south.

DIVISIONS.—England is divided into fifty-two counties, twelve of which are comprehended in the principality of Wales. The following is a list of these counties, with their respective chief towns.

| | *Counties.* | *Chief Towns.* |
|---|---|---|
| Six northern. | Northumberland, | Newcastle. |
| | Cumberland, | Carlisle. |
| | Durham, | Durham. |
| | York, | York. |
| | Westmoreland, | Appleby. |
| | Lancaster, | Lancaster. |
| Four bordering upon Wales. | Chester, | Chester. |
| | Salop, | Shrewsbury. |
| | Hereford, | Hereford. |
| | Monmouth, | Monmouth. |

Twelve

| | Counties. | Chief Towns. |
|---|---|---|
| Twelve Midland. | Nottingham, | Nottingham. |
| | Derby, | Derby. |
| | Stafford, | Stafford. |
| | Leicester, | Leicester. |
| | Rutland. | Okeham. |
| | Northampton, | Northampton. |
| | Warwick, | Warwick. |
| | Worcester, | Worcester. |
| | Gloucester, | Gloucester, |
| | Oxford, | Oxford, |
| | Buckingham, | Aylesbury. |
| | Bedford, | Bedford. |
| Eight Eastern. | Lincoln, | Lincoln. |
| | Huntingdon, | Huntingdon. |
| | Cambridge, | Cambridge. |
| | Norfolk, | Norwich. |
| | Suffolk, | Ipswich. |
| | Essex, | Chelmsford. |
| | Hertford, | Hertford. |
| | Middlesex, | London. |
| Three South-eastern. | Surry, | Guilford. |
| | Kent, | Maidstone. |
| | Sussex, | Lewes. |
| Four Southern. | Berks, | Reading. |
| | Wilts, | Salisbury. |
| | Hants, | Winchester |
| | Dorset, | Dorchester. |
| Three South-western. | Somerset, | Taunton. |
| | Devon, | Exeter. |
| | Cornwall, | Launçeston. |

| | *Counties.* | *Chief Towns.* |
|---|---|---|
| Six, in North Wales. | Flint, | Flint. |
| | Denbigh, | Denbigh. |
| | Caernarvon, | Caernarvon. |
| | Anglesey, | Beaumaris, |
| | Merioneth, | Bala. |
| | Montgomery, | Montgomery. |
| Six, in South Wales. | Radnor, | Presteign. |
| | Cardigan, | Cardigan. |
| | Pembroke, | Pembroke. |
| | Caermarthen, | Caermarthen. |
| | Brecknock, | Brecknock. |
| | Glamorgan, | Caerdiff. |

Besides these there are counties corporate, consisting of certain districts, to which the liberties and jurisdictions peculiar to a county have been granted from the throne ; thus, the city of London is a county distinct from Middlesex. The cities of York, Chester, Bristol, Norwich, Worcester, and Exeter, and the towns of Kingston upon Hull, Newcastle upon Tyne, and Southampton, are also counties distinct from those in which they lie. The town of Berwick upon Tweed, between England and Scotland, has likewise within its jurisdiction a small territory of two miles, on the north side of the river.

England is also divided into circuits, each containing a certain number of counties. Two judges are appointed for each circuit, which they visit in spring and autumn to administer justice. These circuits are as follows:

*Home Circuit.*

Essex, Hertford, Kent, Surry, and Sussex.

*Norfolk*

*Norfolk Circuit.*

Bucks, Bedford, Huntingdon, Cambridge, Suffolk, and Norfolk.

*Oxford Circuit.*

Oxford, Berks, Gloucester, Worcester, Monmouth, Hereford, Salop, and Stafford.

*Midland Circuit.*

Warwick, Leicester, Derby, Nottingham, Lincoln, Rutland, and Northampton.

*Western Circuit.*

Hants, Wilts, Dorset, Somerset, Devon, and Cornwall.

*Northern Circuit.*

York, Durham, Northumberland, Lancaster, Westmoreland, and Cumberland.

Middlesex and Chester are not comprehended in these circuits, the former being the seat of the supreme courts of judicature, and the latter a county palatine.

The Welsh Circuits are the following:

*North-eastern Circuit.*

Flint, Denbigh, and Montgomery.

*North-western Circuit.*

Anglesea, Caernarvon, and Merioneth.

*South-eastern Circuit.*

Radnor, Brecknock, and Glamorgan.

*South-western Circuit.*

Pembroke, Cardigan, and Caermarthen.

CITIES and TOWNS.—London, the metropolis of England, and perhaps the most populous and richest city in the world, is situated in an extensive plain or valley, watered by the Thames. It now includes Southwark, on the other side of the river, and Westminster, another city on the west; so that like some places of ancient Geography, it might be named Tripolis, or three cities. The Thames is here about 440 yards in breadth, and is crowned with three bridges. It conveys into London the wealth of the globe, forming an excellent port, without the danger of exposure to maritime attack. By the most recent and authentic account, London contains about eight hundred and sixty thousand inhabitants.

Next to the capital in dignity, though not in extent and opulence, is York, which may be regarded as the metropolis of the north. This venerable city is divided by the river Ouse; and the gothic cathedral is of celebrated beauty. York divides with Edinburgh the winter visits of the northern gentry.

But Liverpool, in Lancashire, is now generally allowed to approach the nearest to London in wealth, if not in population, being the seat of a vast and increasing commerce. The population is between seventy and eighty thousand.

Bristol is a large and flourishing city, though much of its commerce with the West Indies and America have passed to Liverpool. It is pleasantly situated at the confluence of the Frome and the Avon, and may be regarded as the metropolis of the west of England. The inhabitants are about seventy thousand.

Bath, in its neighbourhood, is esteemed the most elegant town in England. The celebrity of its waters was known to the Romans, and their efficacy

efficacy preserves its estimation undiminished to modern times.

Next to Bristol, in point of opulence, is Manchester, in Lancashire, known to the Romans, and now celebrated over Europe for the manufacture of cotton. In population it is next to London, the inhabitants being estimated at 84,000.

Birmingham, in Warwickshire, was originally a village, but now boasts a population of more than 73,000. It is distinguished for the manufacture of gilt buttons, of toys, and of japanned and enamelled works.

Sheffield, in the most southern part of Yorkshire, is equally celebrated for steel and hardware manufactories, and for plated goods, which in point of elegance and taste, rival those of silver. The population is about 45,000.

Leeds, Bradford, Halifax, Wakefield, and Huddersfield, in the west riding of Yorkshire, are the chief centres of the woollen cloth and stuff manufactories, in which they rival those of the west of England.

On the east of this extensive county, near the wide estuary of the Humber, is the great sea-port of Hull, or Kingston upon Hull, the latter name being only that of the rivulet on which it is situated. The harbour is artificial, and is supposed to present the largest dock in the kingdom.

Portsmouth, in the county of Hants, is the grand naval arsenal of England. The harbour is noble and capacious.

Plymouth, in the county of Devon, is also a celebrated port and arsenal, with a population of more than 43,000.

Falmouth, in Cornwall, the most westerly port in England, is chiefly remarkable for the arrival and dispatch of packet boats; but Exeter, in the

adjacent county, is an ancient and respectable city.

Dorchester, situated on the river Frome; Salisbury, the chief town of Wiltshire; Wilton, in the same county; Winchester, the chief city of Hampshire, and till the thirteenth century the metropolis of England; and Canterbury, the chief town of Kent, and the seat of the Primate of all England, are other places in the south, of considerable importance and notoriety.

On the west is Hereford, the capital of the county, known in the Saxon times, but now falling into decay; Gloucester, on the Severn; and Worcester, also on the Severn, celebrated for the manufacture of porcelain.

Coventry is esteemed the most inland and central of the English towns; its chief manufacture is ribbons.

On the east is the opulent and extensive city of Norwich, the capital of Norfolk, distinguished by the manufacture of damasks, crapes, stuffs, &c. Yarmouth is a noted sea port, remarkable for its fisheries of mackarel, in May and June, and of herrings, in October and November. In proceeding northwards, Lincoln arrests the attention. The interior of the cathedral is admired for its lightness and magnificence.

In the north, Durham is a pleasant and venerable city, almost surrounded by the Wear. Stockton, on the river Tees; Sunderland, at the mouth of the Wear; and South Shields, on that of the Tyne, are sea-port towns in the bishopric, of considerable size, trade, and population. Newcastle is placed in the centre of the grand coal mines, which for centuries have supplied London, and most of the E. and S. of England with that fuel. As a nursery for seamen, the trade is inestimable.

Near

Near an extensive bay of the Irish sea, is Lancaster, an ancient and populous town, and the seat of a moderate commerce, especially with the West Indies.

The city of Chester, near the estuary of the Dee, is of Roman origin; its trade is not considerable, but its two annual fairs for the sale of Irish linens are frequented by persons from all the neighbouring counties.

Shrewsbury, the county town of Shropshire, is beautifully situated on the Severn. Its trade is not considerable, but it supports an extensive intercourse with the Principality, of which, though not included in Wales, it is a kind of metropolis. Of this division of the island, Caernarvon is the capital of the northern part, and Caermarthen, on the Towey, of the southern.

MOUNTAINS.—Besides the Cheviott Hills, which form part of the northern boundary of the country, the mountains of England are said to form a regular chain from north to south, beginning about 14 miles S. E. of Carlisle, and passing on the west of Durham and Yorkshire, where it contains mines of coal and lead: the central chain proceeds southwards through Derbyshire, still abounding with minerals and natural curiosities; but here it seems to terminate, spreading a little into Cheshire. A chain of smaller elevation, however, may be traced in an irregular line, nearly to Salisbury, breaking into two branches on the E. one towards Norfolk, and another into Kent, while another runs S. W. into Cornwall. To the first belong the hills of Gogmagog, in Cambridgeshire; to the second, those of Hampshire, Surry, and Kent. Malvern hills in Worcestershire, deviate from the central ridge; Cotswold in Gloucestershire may be regarded as a continuation of it. The hills of Mendip, Polden, &c.

&c. in Somersetshire, the Wilds of Dartmoor in Devon, and the hills and upland Downs of Cornwall, extend the chain to the Land's End.

Besides these there are several detached mountains, the highest of which are Skiddaw, in Cumberland; those of Craven, in the west riding of Yorkshire, as Wharnside, Ingleborough, and Pennigant; and Pendle, on the E. of Lancaster. Kinder Scout in Derbyshire, is the highest point of that extensive range, which is called the High Peak.

Wales is a country abounding with mountains, especially in the N. among which Snowden, Caer Idris, and Plinlimmon are remarkable.

Rivers.—England is intersected by four important rivers, the Severn, the Thames, the Humber, and the Mersey. The Severn rises from the mountain of Plinlimmon, near the borders of Cardiganshire, and after an easterly course to Shrewsbury, bends its progress almost S. to Gloucester, whence it flows S. W. into the Bristol channel, after a progress of about 150 miles, being navigable above Shrewsbury, as far as Welch Pool.

The Thames originates in Cotswold hills, Gloucestershire; and maintains a south-easterly direction to its egress into the German sea.

The Humber is a name almost confined to a large estuary, which receives many considerable rivers, that fertilize the central part of England. The most important of these is the Trent, which rises in Staffordshire, and proceeding N. E. through the county of Nottingham, and in part dividing it from Lincolnshire, enters the Humber, after a direct course of about 100 miles, being navigable to Burton. The other principal rivers which fall into the Humber, are the Dun, which runs by Doncaster; the Aire, navigable

to

to Leeds, and the Calder, navigable to Halifax, both singularly useful in transporting the woollen manufactures; and the Wharf, navigable to Tadcaster. The Ure and Swale, rising in the mountainous district of Craven, and uniting a little below Aldborough, are the parents of the noble river Ouse, which passes York, and constitutes another grand branch of the Humber, navigable to Rippon; nor must the Derwent be omitted, which is navigable to New-Malton, nor the little river Hull, which forms so considerable a port, at Kingston. The Humber may be regarded as the stem of a venerable oak, which, as is usual with that tree, spreads its chief branches in an horizontal direction.

Though the Mersey presents a grand estuary, its course is not above 50 miles. It rises in the west riding of Yorkshire, runs to the S. W. and is navigable to Stockport, but the estuary on which the port of Liverpool is situated, bends to the north.

The other navigable rivers, beginning at the north, are the Tweed, which divides England from Scotland; the Tyne, which flows through Northumberland, and separates it from Durham; the Wear, by Durham; the Eden, through Cumberland into Solway Frith; the Tees, between Durham and Yorkshire; the Lon, and the Ribble, in Lancashire; the Derwent, through Derbyshire, into the Trent; the Wever, through Cheshire; the Dee, through Denbighshire and Cheshire into the Irish sea; the Teem, by Ludlow through part of Shropshire and Worcestershire into the Severn; the Lug, and the Wye, through Herefordshire and Monmouth, and the Uske, through Monmouthshire, all falling into the Bristol channel; the Warwickshire Avon, through Warwickshire and Worcestershire into the

the Severn; the Upper Avon, through Wilts and Somersetshire, by Bath and Bristol into the Channel; the Lower Avon, through Wilts and Hampshire into the English channel; the Medway, through Kent into the Thames; the Waveny, between Norfolk and Suffolk, and the Yare, through Norfolk into the German sea; the Ouse, through Buckinghamshire, Bedfordshire, Huntingdon, Cambridge, and Norfolk, into the Wash; the Nen, through Northamptonshire; the Welland, through Northamptonshire and Lincolnshire, and the Witham, through Lincolnshire, all into the same estuary.

Religion.—The established religion is Calvinistic rather than Lutheran. The Church is governed by two Archbishops, Canterbury and York; and twenty-four Bishops; London, Durham, Winchester, Bath and Wells, Hereford, Rochester, Lichfield and Coventry, Chester, Worcester, Chichester, St. Asaph, Salisbury, Bangor, Norwich, Gloucester, Landaff, Lincoln, Bristol, Carlisle, Exeter, Peterborough, Oxford, and St. David's, besides the Bishop of Soder and Man, who is a suffragan of York. Dissenters, or those who differ in tenets or forms from the established Church, including Catholicks, Presbyterians, Independents, Baptists, and Quakers, are all tolerated.

Places of education.—The universities are Oxford and Cambridge, the first of which is erroneously supposed to have been founded by Alfred the Great, and the latter by Edward I. The most eminent publick schools are St. Paul's, and those of Westminster, Eton, and Winchester.

Government.—The constitution of England is a limited monarchy, the government being vested in the King, Lords, and Commons. The power of making laws is appropriate to the representatives

sentatives of the people, which are binding when they have passed the house of Lords, and received the royal assent. The supreme executive power is lodged in the King or Queen. The house of Lords consists of the Princes of the blood, the Bishops, Dukes, Marquisses, Earls, Viscounts, and Barons or Lords of England, sixteen Peers of Scotland, and the Lords of Ireland, in all about 200. The house of Commons is composed of the representatives of the several counties, boroughs, universities, and cinque-ports in England, Scotland, and Wales, consisting of 558 persons, to whom 100 members from Ireland are now added as the representatives of that country; and the Parliament thus constituted, is called the Imperial Parliament of Great Britain and Ireland.

ROYAL TITLES.—The royal titles are, by the grace of God, of the united kingdoms of Great Britain and Ireland, King; Defender of the Faith.

The King's eldest son is Duke of Cornwall by birth, and is created Prince of Wales.

## ENGLISH ISLES.

THE ISLE OF WIGHT in the English channel, lies opposite to the coast of Hampshire. It is considered as part of the county of Southampton, and is within the diocese of Winchester. The island is of an oval form, about 20 miles in length, and 12 in breadth. The principal haven is that of Newport. It is about five miles from Cowes,

at

at which harbour the river Medina empties itself into the Channel. One of the most remarkable buildings is Carisbrook castle, where Charles I. was imprisoned. After the execution of the King, it was converted into a place of confinement for his children, and the princess Elizabeth died in it.

At the distance of about 70 miles from the isle of Wight, to the S. W. arises the little isle of Alderney, off Cape la Hogne, which is afterwards followed by the more important isles of Guernsey and Jersey, Sark being a small isle interposed between the two latter. GUERNSEY the largest of these isles is about 35 miles in circuit. Port St. Pierre is the only town. JERSEY is about twelve miles in length and six in breadth. The inhabitants are computed at 20,000. The chief towns are St. Helier and St. Aubin. ALDERNEY is a small isle, with a town, and about 1000 inhabitants. SARK has about 300 inhabitants.

About 30 miles to the west of the Land's end, appear the ISLES OF SCILLY, in number about 140. The largest is St. Mary, which is about five miles in circuit, and has a castle and garrison. The inhabitants are about 300.

ANGLESEY is separated from the coast of Caernarvon by the strait of Menai. It is the Mona of Tacitus, and is about 25 miles in length and 18 in breadth. This island is remarkably fertile, and of late has been productive of rich copper, found in the Parrys mountain, in the N. E. part of the island. The chief towns are Newburgh, Beaumaris, and Holyhead, fronting Ireland, to which place the packets pass every day, the usual time being about 12 hours.

THE ISLE OF MAN is situated in the Irish sea, opposite to Cumberland and Lancashire, on the English

English coast. It is about 30 miles in length, and 15 in its greatest breadth. Castleton is the metropolis and seat of government; Peel, Ramsay, and Douglas, are towns upon the sea coast. The last two have a considerable trade. The island is said to abound with iron, lead, and copper mines, though unwrought. Before the south promontory of Man is a little island, called the Calf of Man; it is about three miles in circuit, and is separated from Man by a channel of about two furlongs in breadth.

There are also some small islands off the eastern coast, as Holy isle, Lindisfarm, and Coquette island, near the mouth of the river of that name, in Northumberland.

The isle of THANET is now joined to the land of Kent; but SHEPPEY remains a pleasant and interesting island.

# SCOTLAND.

NORTH BRITAIN, though less extensive, populous, and opulent than the southern part of the island, is on many accounts worthy of attention. From the rude mountains of Scotland descends the hardy warrior. Her boisterous seas, rocky shores, and rapid tides, inure the mariner to dangers and fatigues. Her mineral stores are valuable, and the fishery on her coasts presents an inexhaustible treasure.

FIGURE.—The general figure of Scotland is very irregular. The eastern coast is greatly indented by the frith of Forth, and the mouth of



the

the Tay. On the northern coast a vast gap is made by the sea, the southern part of which is called the Murray frith. The western parts seem to be shattered by the fury of the waves: the estuary of the Clyde forms an opening on the S. W. and the coast is terminated on the S. by Solway frith.

BOUNDARIES.—Scotland is bounded on all sides by the sea, except on the S. E. where it is separated from England by the Cheviott hills, the river Esk, and the Tweed. The Shetland and Orkney isles, on the northern coast, are washed by the great N. sea; its eastern shores are confined by the German sea, and the islands and rugged cliffs on its western coast, repel the waves of the Atlantic ocean.

EXTENT.—The utmost extent of Scotland from N. to S. is about 260 miles, and its breadth from Applecross to Peterhead, measures above 150. From the frith of Forth to that of the Clyde is scarcely 30. It is a curious fact that there is no place in Scotland above 40 miles from the shore, the country being greatly indented and broken by arms of the sea.

POPULATION.—The population is estimated at 1,600,000; about one third of that of Ireland. This deficiency arises solely from the mountainous nature of the country, amounting perhaps to one half, little susceptible of cultivation.

DIVISIONS.—This country may be divided into three parts, the northern, the middle, and the southern divisions. The northern is cut off by a chain of lakes, which cross the island in an oblique direction from north east to south west, stretching from Inverness to the isle of Mull. The middle division is separated from the southern by the hollow tract between the Forth and the Clyde, through which the great canal is carried,

carried, and which is navigable for vessels of 100 tons burden.

The counties into which this part of Great Britain is divided are those to the S. of the frith of Forth, the capital of which and of all Scotland is Edinburgh, and those to the N. of the same river, of which the chief town is Aberdeen. Some writers, with less geographical accuracy, have divided this country into the Highlands and Lowlands, on account of the different habits, manners, and customs of the inhabitants of each. The Erse, which is a dialect of the Irish, is only spoken in the Highlands.

The names of the counties and of the chief towns are as follows.

Counties N. of the river Forth.

| *Counties.* | *Towns.* | *Counties.* | *Towns.* |
|---|---|---|---|
| Orkney, | Skalloway, | Kincardin or Mearns, | Bervie. |
| Cathness, | Wick. | Angus or Forfar, | Montrose. |
| Sutherland, | Strathy. | Perth, | Perth. |
| Ross, | Taine. | Fife, | St. Andrews. |
| Cromartie, | Cromartie. | Kinross, | Culross. |
| Nairne, | Nairne. | Clackmanan, | Clackmanan. |
| Inverness, | Inverness. | | |
| Murray, | Elgin. | | |
| Bamf, | Bamf. | | |
| Aberdeen, | Aberdeen. | | |

Counties S. of the river Forth.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Stirling, | Stirling. | Lanerk, | Glasgow. |
| Dumbarton, | Dumbarton. | Linlithgow, | Linlithgow. |
| Argyle, | Inverary. | Edinburgh, | Edinburgh. |
| Bute, | Rothsay. | Haddington, | Dunbar. |
| Renfrew, | Renfrew. | Merse, | Duns and Lauder. |
| Ayr, | Ayr. | | |

Roxburg,

| *Counties.* | *Towns.* | *Counties.* | *Towns.* |
|---|---|---|---|
| Roxburg, | Jedburg. | Kirkcud-bright, | Kircud-bright. |
| Selkirk, | Selkirk. | Dumfries, | Dumfries. |
| Peebles, | Peebles. | | |
| Wigtown, | Wigtown. | | |

In all thirty-three shires, which chuse thirty representatives to sit in the parliament of Great Britain; Bute and Cathness chusing alternately; as do Nairne and Cromartie, Clackmanan and Kinross. Berwick upon Tweed formerly gave name to the county of Merse, but is now a town and county of itself, having its own privileges.

Cities and towns.—Edinburgh the capital, is of no great antiquity. The houses in the old town are of remarkable height. This part of the city stands on the ridge of a hill, gradually descending from the lofty precipice on which the castle is situated, to a bottom, in which stands the palace of Holyrood-house. The new town of Edinburgh is deservedly celebrated for regularity and elegance, the houses being all of free stone, and some of them ornamented with pillars and pilasters. The population of Edinburgh, including the port of Leith, probably falls little short of 90,000.

The second city of Scotland is Glasgow, which recent improvements have rendered one of the neatest in the kingdom. Its situation is favourable for commerce with America, and the West Indies. Its manufactures are numerous and important. That of cotton has sometimes employed 15,000 looms. The inhabitants are estimated at more than 60,000.

Next in eminence are the cities of Perth and Aberdeen, and the town of Dundee. Perth is an ancient town, pleasantly situated on the western bank of the river Tay. At present the

trade

trade is chiefly of the coasting kind. The principal manufacture is linen. The inhabitants are about 28,000.

Nearer the mouth of the Tay stands Dundee, a neat modern town. The frith of the river is here between two and three miles broad, and there is a good road for shipping to the east of the town. The staple manufacture is linen, canvass, &c. The population is now computed at 24,000.

Aberdeen, the seat of a university, boasts a considerable trade, though the harbour is not very commodious. The chief manufactures are woollen goods, particularly stockings. The population is estimated at more than 24,000.

The chief towns of the south-eastern part of the kingdom are Berwick, a fortified town, which carries on a considerable trade in salmon; Jedburg, on the river Jed, remarkable for the beautiful ruins of an abbey; and Dumfries, standing on a rising ground, on the eastern banks of the Nith. The inhabitants are about 6000.

The chief towns in the S. W. are Ayr, situated on a sandy plain, on a river of the same name. The chief trade is in grain and coals; Lanark, which stands in a most picturesque country, near the celebrated falls of the Clyde, Greenock and Port Glasgow, which share in the trade of Glasgow; and Paisley, celebrated for its manufactures of muslin, lawns, and gauzes. Dumbarton, on the northern shore of the Clyde, contains above 2000 inhabitants, and partakes in the manufactures of Glasgow.

Stirling, a central town, is remarkable for its commanding and truly royal situation.

On the east, Dumferline is a pleasant town in the county of Fife, containing about 5000 inhabitants, and carries on a valuable manufacture of diapers.

diapers. Forfar, in Angus, has a linen manufacture; and Dunkeld, on the Tay, is a venerable and picturesque town. Brechin and Montrose have each about 5000 inhabitants, and the former possesses manufactures of linen, cotton, and tanned leather.

The county of Mearns presents no town worth notice. Peterhead, in Aberdeenshire, contains about 2000 inhabitants. Frazerburgh, near the promontory of Kinnaird Head, has a tolerable harbour. Portsoy is a sea-port town, and the rocks in its neighbourhood are well known to mineralogists. Elgin, the capital of the county, boasts the remains of an elegant cathedral, and about 4000 inhabitants. Inverness is an ancient and flourishing town, the capital of the northern Highlands. The population is computed at 10,000.

The few towns farther to the N. are of little account, and there is a lamentable void along the western half of Scotland for a space of about 160 miles, only interrupted by a few scattered hamlets, from Thurso, opposite to the Orknies on the N. to Inverary, the foundation of the noble house of Argyle. It is a neat and pleasant town. Its inhabitants are about 1000. There are manufactures of linen and woollen, and a considerable iron work. In the same county is Campbel town, a royal borough, in the southern part of the peninsula of Cantire: the harbour is excellent.

MOUNTAINS.—Scotland is intersected by lofty mountains in various directions. The chief elevation in the southern part of the country, is the ridge called the Lead hills, the chief summit of which is Hartfell. Not far to the N. is Tinto, a remarkable solitary mountain. To the east is the uniform ridge of Lammermoor, terminating in

in St. Abb's head. The hills of Pentland on the S. of Edinburgh are rather picturesque than important. On passing the Forth appears the range of Ochill-hills, remarkable for their singular agates and calcedonies. But the most important are the Grampian, which may be considered as a grand frontier chain, extending from Loch Lomond to Stonehaven, and forming the southern boundary of the Highlands.

Among the detached mountains of singular height are Ben Lomond, and Ben Lawers, belonging to the Grampian chain; Ben Cruachan in Argyleshire. Ben Nevis, which is the highest mountain in Great Britain, is estimated at 4850 feet above the level of the sea. Snow remains in the crevices of its summit all the year. To the N. W. is the long mountain of Corriarok, near Fort Augustus; and about 30 miles to the E. rises the mountain Cairngorm, or the blue mountain, almost perpetually clothed with snow.

Rivers.—The principal rivers of Scotland are the Forth, the Clyde, and the Tay.

The chief source of the Forth, is from Ben Lomond; the Clyde issues from a hill in the S. E. corner of Tweedale, called Arrik Stane; and the principal source of the Tay is the lake of the same name.

Next in consequence and in fame is the Tweed, a beautiful river, which falls into the sea at Berwick. The Annan contributes largely to the frith of Solway. The Nith, a river of a longer course, passes Dumfries, and falls into the same estuary. The Dee is a considerable and placid stream, issuing from the mountains of Scairsoch, and pursues a due easterly course to Aberdeen. The Don runs almost parallel a few miles to the N. The Spey is a grand and impetuous river, rising in a small lake called Loch Spey, in the vicinity of the high mountain of Corriarock, near

Fort

Fort Augustus, whence it rolls amidst mountainous wilds until it suddenly turns to its fixed direction to the N. E. being, perhaps, the most considerable Alpine river of Scotland.

LAKES.—Among the lakes of this country the chief in extent and beauty is Loch Lomond. At the time of the earthquake in Lisbon, 1755, the waters were agitated in a singular manner. Loch Tay, at the foot of Ben Lawers, is a grand and beautiful expanse of waters, of such length as rather to resemble a noble river. Loch Ness rivals Loch Tay in extent and reputation. This lake was also affected at the time of the earthquake at Lisbon. Loch Awe, in Argyleshire, is the most considerable lake on the west of the Highlands; it is about 30 miles in length, and from one to two in breadth, and is studded with many small, woody islands. The Scotch sometimes give the name of Loch to an arm of the sea, as Loch Fyn, which is 60 miles long, and four broad.

RELIGION.—The established religion of the country is the Presbyterian. The Episcopal church also exists in Scotland, and there are a few quakers, papists, and other sectaries.

PLACES OF EDUCATION.—There are four universities; three on the eastern side, Edinburgh, St. Andrews, and Aberdeen; and one on the western side, at Glasgow. The seminaries of medical instruction are at Glasgow and Edinburgh, the latter of which is the most celebrated in Europe.

GOVERNMEMT.—Anciently the feudal system prevailed through the kingdom. The sovereign authority was vested in the King, whose power was limited by that of the nobles, chieftains, &c. The crown was hereditary. England and Scotland fell under the dominion of one king, James VI.

of

Scotland, the first of England, in 1603. In 1707 the kingdoms also were united by Queen Anne, but Scotland still enjoys its peculiar courts and forms of civil jurisdiction.

## SCOTISH ISLES.

THE islands belonging to Scotland are Bute and Arran; the Hebudes (corrupted into Hebrides) or western isles; the Orknies; and the islands of Shetland.

BUTE and ARRAN are two beautiful islands, which adorn the frith of Clyde. The first is about 12 miles in length and four in breadth; and its inhabitants are about 4000. Rothsay the chief town, stands on the E. side of the island. It is happily situated for trade, having an excellent pier and harbour. To the S. W. of Bute lies the island of ARRAN. It is about 23 miles in length by nine in breadth, and has 7000 inhabitants. The chief place is the village of Ranza. On the eastern part of the island is the village of Kilbride, and the excellent harbour of Lamlash, defended by a little island called Holy island. Arran is comprehended in the county of Bute. The shores of this and the neighbouring isles are often visited by the basking shark, and the whale sometimes appears.

To the W. of the peninsula of Cantyre begin the Hebudes, or western isles. The first is ILAY, about the same length as Arran, but nearly 18 miles in breadth. The inhabitants are about 7000. The principal village is Bowmore, where several

several neat buildings have lately been erected.

JURA is divided from this last island by a narrow sound. It is about 20 miles in length, but the breadth is seldom more than five. It is one of the most rugged of the Hebudes, which in general are mountainous regions. The paps of Jura, which are a line of conic hills, present a singular appearance: they are on the western side of the island, and almost bare of vegetation. The noted gulph or whirlpool of Brecan, or Corryvrekan is on the northern extremity of Jura.

The next isle of any consequence is MULL. It is about 28 miles in length and 18 in breadth. The population is about 7000. The only village is Tobermoray, near the northern point of the island, where a fishing station has lately been erected.

To the N. W. of Mull are the isles of TIREY and COL, the former producing a most beautiful marble of a rose colour, penetrated with irregular green crystals. COL is rocky, but has several small lakes replenished with fish.

THE ISLE OF SKY lies in the great sound called the Minch, between the Long island and the continent. It is the largest of the Hebudes, being about 45 miles in length, and 22 in breadth, The inhabitants are about 15,000. Portree is the only town or village in the island. Skey belongs to the shire of Inverness.

The principal island of the exterior chain of the western isles is LEUIS. It is about 50 miles in length, by 20 in breadth. The only town is Stornaway. To the S. of Leuis is NORTH VIST, about 22 miles in length from E. to W. and about 17 in breadth, from N. to S. The small isle of BENBECULA, and some others, lie between N. and S. VIST; the latter is about 23 miles in length from N. to S. by about 10 in breadth from W.

to

to E. A heathy, elevated ridge, full of morasses, extends through these islands, which at low water almost communicate with each other, and are sometimes called the Long island.

The ORKNEY ISLES lie N. of Dungsby head, and are divided from the continent by a tempestuous strait, called Pentland frith, which is 24 miles long, and about 12 broad. The inhabited isles of Orkney are about 26 in number, and the people are computed at 23,000. MAINLAND the centre of the group, is frequently called POMONA, and is about 25 miles in length and 13 in breadth. Kirkwall, the capital of the Orcades, is built upon an inlet of the sea, near the middle of the island. Stromness, the only other remarkable town, stands nearly opposite to Kirkwall, and has an excellent harbour.

The SHETLAND ISLES present a group similar to those of Orkney, with a Mainland, or chief island in the centre. They are 46 in number, 26 of which are said to be inhabited. The MAINLAND is about 57 miles in length, and from 10 to 12 in breadth. It is much intersected by the sea. The principal town is Larwick. At Skalloway the remains of a castle are still to be seen. These islands belong to the shire of Orkney. The climate is far from being favourable. The air is generally moist, and they are subject to dreadful storms of wind, rain, and thunder.

## IRELAND.

# IRELAND.

Situation and extent.—The large and fertile island of Ireland is situated on the western side of England, from which it is separated by St. George's channel. Its length from N. to S. is about 235 miles, and its greatest breadth from the eastern part of the county of Down to the western part of Mayo, is 182 miles. The population is estimated at five millions.

Divisions.—Ireland is divided into four provinces, Leinster, Ulster, Connaught, and Munster.

The province of Leinster, which occupies the eastern part of the island, contains twelve counties.

| *Counties.* | *Towns.* | *Counties.* | *Towns.* |
|---|---|---|---|
| Dublin, | Dublin. | King's County, | Philipstown. |
| Louth, | Drogheda. | Queen's County, | Maryborough. |
| Wicklow, | Wicklow. | Kilkenny, | Kilkenny. |
| Wexford, | Wexford. | Kildare, | Kildare. |
| Longford, | Longford. | Carlow. | Carlow. |
| East Meath, | Trim. | | |
| West Meath, | Mullinger. | | |

Connaught on the western side, contains five counties.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Leitrim, | Leitrim. | Mayo, | Ballinrobe. |
| Roscommon, | Roscommon. | Sligo, | Sligo. |
| | | Galway, | Galway. |

The

The province of ULSTER on the N. contains ninecounties.

| *Counties.* | *Towns.* | *Counties.* | *Towns.* |
|---|---|---|---|
| Down, | Down Patrick. | London-derry, | London-derry. |
| Armagh, | Charlemont. | Tyrone, | Omagh. |
| Monaghan, | Monaghan. | Fermanagh, | Enniskillen. |
| Cavan, | Cavan. | | |
| Antrim, | Carickfergus. | Donnegal, | Donnegal and Lifford. |

The province of MUNSTER on the S. contains six counties.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Clare, | Ennis. | Cork, | Cork. |
| Limerick, | Limerick. | Waterford, | Waterford. |
| Kerry, | Tralee. | Tipperary, | Clonmell. |

CITIES and TOWNS.—Dublin is delightfully situated in a valley, between ranges of hills on the south and north. It is pervaded by the river Liffy, and by fome rivulets. The harbour is incommodious, but the quays are spacious and beautiful. This capital is justly accounted the second in the British dominions, the inhabitants being estimated at 170,000.

Cork is a city of considerable importance, situated on the south-eastern side of the island, and is supposed to contain about 80,000 inhabitants. The haven ranks among the most commodious and safest in Europe, and the passage from it to the city is remarkable for the variety and beauty of the scenery.

Limerick is accounted the third city in Ireland. Its situation is almost central to the southern part of the island, and the haven, formed by the long

estuary of the Shannon, is excellent. The inhabitants are computed at 50,000.

Galway, on the W. of the island, carries on an extensive trade with the West Indies. The port is commodious and safe, but distant from the city. The number of inhabitants is computed at 12,000.

On Klew bay stands the increasing town of Westport, but there are few others of much consequence upon the whole western coast. Sligo is, however, increasing in trade; and Castlebar is also a prosperous town.

Londonderry, in the N. stands on the river Foyle, over which a wooden bridge of singular construction has been thrown. Its commerce is not unimportant.

Belfast on the N. E. is the centre of the linen manufactures. The inhabitants are computed at 20,000. It maintains considerable intercourse with the commercial city of Glasgow; but the grand exports are to the West Indies.

Newry, on a small stream which flows into the bay of Carlingford, is the second of the northern towns. Its trade in butter and linens is very considerable. A canal extends from Lough Neagh, by Newry, to the sea.

Dundalk has also its manufactures of linen and muslin; and Drogheda is a well built town on the Boyne. The inhabitants exceed 15,000.

Wexford, to the S. E. is remarkable for its woollen manufactures, but the haven, though spacious, is not sufficiently deep for large vessels.

New Ross, situated on the river Barrow, has considerable exports. Waterford on the Suir, is supposed to have been founded by the Danes. A noble quay extends the whole length of the town, accessible to large vessels; and a fine

wooden

wooden bridge has lately been thrown over the river. The population is about 35,000.

The sea-ports of Dungarvon and Youghall are lost in the superior consequence of Cork, but Kinsale is a maritime arsenal, and supposed to contain 8000 inhabitants.

Of the interior towns the principal are Kilkenny, a handsome city, with 16,000 inhabitants; and Clonmell on the Suir, a populous and flourishing town. Armagh, Cashel, and Turam, are rather venerable than important.

MOUNTAINS.—Ireland when compared with some other countries is far from being mountainous. Mourne and Iveagh in the county of Down, are reckoned amongst the highest hills in the kingdom, of which Sliebh Donard, is said to be 2803 feet above the level of the sea. Mangerton, and the Reeks, in Kerry; the Galtees, in Cork; Croagh Patrick, certainly higher than Mangerton, and Nephin, in Mayo; and Knockmeledown, in the county of Waterford, are also remarkable.

RIVERS.—The chief river of Ireland is the Shannon, which rises from Lough Allen, and passing through two other large lakes, Lough Ree, and Lough Derg, afterwards extends below Limerick into a vast estuary or frith, about 60 miles in length, and from three to ten in breadth. This noble river is so wide and deep through its whole course, as to afford easy navigation. About six miles above Limmerick a cataract intercepts the intercourse between the upper and lower parts. The whole course may be computed at 170 miles.

The river Barrow after a course of 100 miles, enters the sea on the S. E. and forms the harbour of Waterford. It receives the Nour and the Suir. It is navigable to Athy.

The Liffy is an inconsiderable stream, but acquires consequence as it forms the harbour of Dublin. The Boyne, after a course of 50 miles, also enters the sea on the eastern side. On the N. the Banna is a considerable stream, which penetrates Lough Neagh, and enters the sea after a course of about 70 miles.

LAKES.—The lakes of Ireland are numerous, and some of them extensive. The term *Lough*, corresponding with the Scotish *Loch*, is sometimes applied to an estuary, or to an inlet of the sea, such as the Swilley, and the Foyle, in the N. and Strangford, in Down. The chief lake of fresh water is that of Erne, which exceeds 30 miles in length and 12 in breath. On an island of the outlet, which connects the northern and the southern part, stands the town of Enniskillen. Next in magnitude is Neagh, about 22 miles in length and 1[illegible] in breadth. Lough Erne is studded with islands, but Lough Neagh is one vast sheet of water. The latter, or the adjoining soil, possesses a petrifying quality.

The lake of Corrib in the county of Galway, is about 20 miles in length, and from two to five wide. To these must be added the beautiful and interesting Lough of Killarny in the south west; Lough Allen, already mentioned as the source of the Shannon; Lough Eask; Lough Gill; &c.

RELIGION.—The religion established by law, and the ecclesiastical discipline of Ireland are the same as in England; but it is computed, that two thirds of the people are Catholics; of the remainder, the Presbyterians are supposed to constitute the greater part. Ireland has four Archbishops, Armagh, Dublin, Cashel, and Tuam.

Under the Archbishop of Armagh are the Bishops of Meath, Kilmore, Dromore, Clogher, Raphoe, Down and Connor, Derry, and Ardagh.

Under

Under the Archbishop of Dublin, Kildare, Ferns and Leighlin, and Ossory.

Under the Archbishop of Cashel, Waterford and Lismore, Limerick und Ardfert, Killaloe and Kilfenora, Cork and Ross, and Cloyne.

Under the Archbishop of Tuam are Clonfert, and Killmacduagh, Killalla and Achonry, and Elphin.

UNIVERSITIES.—Ireland contains but one university, which is that of Dublin, refounded in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, under the title of Trinity College.

GOVERNMENT.—This kingdom formerly had its own Parliament and house of Peers, whilst the King was represented by a lord lieutenant or viceroy, but was united to Great Britain, A. D. 1801. It is now represented in the Commons' house of the Imperial Parliament, by 100 members, chosen by the counties and principal towns; and in the house of Peers, by 28 temporal, and by four spiritual Lords of Ireland. A vice-regal court is still maintained in Dublin, and the castle is now the town residence of the Viceroy, and the depository of the public records. Besides the assizes, which are held twice a year, there is in every county an inferior judge, called an assistant barrister, whose business is to try civil bills, for the more speedy administration of justice.

# FRANCE.

Boundaries and extent.—France is bounded by the Atlantic ocean on the W. by the Mediterranean and the Pyrenees, on the S. by Switzerland and the Alps, on the E. and on the N. and N. E. by the Rhine, including that part of the Netherlands, which has been added by recent acquisitions to its former territory. Thus defined it extends nearly from the 42nd to the 51st degree of N. lat. and from the 7th degree of W. long. from Paris, to about the 5th on the E. being about 600 British miles in length, from N. to S. and 560 in breadth, from W. to E.

Population.—The population of France was formerly computed at twenty-six millions, but the late acquisition of territory has swelled the number of inhabitants to the formidable extent of thirty-two millions.

Divisions.—The ancient provinces of the kingdom have been divided into smaller departments; each department is subdivided into districts, and each district into cantons. The departments and chief towns are as follows.

| *Ancient Prov.* | *Departments.* | *Chief Towns.* |
|---|---|---|
| Flandre Françoise. | Nord, | Lille. |
| Artois. | Pas-de-Calais, | Arras. |
| Picardie. | Somme, | Amiens. |

| *Ancient Prov.* | *Departments.* | *Chief Towns.* |
|---|---|---|
| Normandie. | Seine Inférieure, | Rouen. |
| | Calvados, | Caen. |
| | Manche, | Coutances. |
| | Orne, | Alençon. |
| | Eure, | Evreux. |
| Isle de France. | Seine, | Paris. |
| | Seine et Oise, | Versailles. |
| | Oise, | Beauvais. |
| | Aisne, | Laon. |
| | Seine et Marne, | Melun. |
| Champagne | Marne, | Châlons-sur-Marne. |
| | Ardennes, | Mézières. |
| | Aube, | Troyes. |
| | Haut Marne, | Chaumont. |
| Lorraine. | Meuse, | Bar-sur-Ornain. |
| | Moselle, | Metz. |
| | Meurthe, | Nancy. |
| | Vosges, | Epinal. |
| Alsace. | Haut-Rhin, | Colmar. |
| | Bas-Rhin, | Strasburg. |
| Bretagne. | Ille et Vilaine. | Rennes. |
| | Côtes du Nord, | St. Brieux. |
| | Finisterre, | Quimper. |
| | Morbihan, | Vannes. |
| | Loire Inferieure, | Nantes. |
| Maine et Perche. | Sarthe, | Le Mans. |
| | Mayenne, | Laval. |
| Anjou. | Mayenne et Loire | Angers. |
| Touraine. | Indre et Loire. | Tours. |
| Orleanois. | Loiret, | Orleans. |
| | Eure et Loire, | Chartres. |
| | Loire et Cher, | Blois. |

| *Ancient Prov.* | *Departments.* | *Chief Towns.* |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Berri. | Indre, | Châteauroux. |
| | Cher, | Bourges. |
| Nivernois. | Nièvre, | Nevers. |
| Bourgogne. | Yonne, | Auxerre. |
| | Côte d'Or, | Dijon. |
| | Saône et Loire, | Mâcon. |
| | Ain, | Bourg. |
| Franche Comptè. | Haute Saône, | Vesoul. |
| | Doubs, | Bensançon. |
| | Jura, | Lons-le-Saunier. |
| Poitou. | Vendée, | Fontenay-le-peuple. |
| | Deux Sèvres, | Niort. |
| | Vienne, | Poitiers. |
| Marche. | Haut Vienne, comprising part of Limosin. | Limoge. |
| | Creuze, | Guèret. |
| Limosin. | Corrèze, comprising part of Upper Vienne. | Tulle. |
| Bourbonnois. | Allier, | Moulins. |
| Saintoigne, comprising Aunis. | Charente Inferieure, | Saintes. |
| Angoumois, comprising part of Saintonge. | Charente, | Angouleme. |
| Auvergne. | Puy de Dôme, | Clermont. |
| | Cantal, | St. Flour. |

*Anct.*

| *Ancient Prov.* | *Departments.* | *Chief Towns.* |
|---|---|---|
| Lyonnois, Forêt et Beaujolois. | Rhône, | Lyon. |
| | Loire, | Montbrison. |
| | Isére, | Grenoble. |
| Dauphiné. | Hautes Alpes, | Gap. |
| | Drôme, | Valence, |
| Guyenne, comprehending Gascogne. | Dordogne, | Perigeux. |
| | Gironde, | Bordeaux. |
| | Lot et Garonne, | Agen. |
| | Lot | Cahors. |
| | Aveyron, | Rhodez. |
| | Gers, | Auch. |
| | Landes, | Mont-de-Marsan. |
| | Hautes Pyrénées, | Tarbe. |
| Bearne, | Basses Pyrénées, | Pau. |
| Comté de Foix. | Arriege, | Tarascon. |
| Roussillon. | Pyrénées Orientales, | Perpignan. |
| Languedoc. | Haute Garonne, | Toulouse. |
| | Aude. | Carcassonne. |
| | Tarn, | Castres. |
| | Garde, | Nimes. |
| | Lozere, | Mende. |
| | Ardéche, | Privas. |
| | Haute Loire, | Le Puy. |
| | Héraut, | Montpellier. |
| Provence. | Bouches-du-Rhone, | Aix. |
| | Basses-Alpes, | Digne. |
| | Var, | Toulon. |
| Corsica, | Golo, | Bastia. |
| | Liamone, | Ajaccio. |

The

The recent conquests of France have also been moulded to a similar form, under the name of re-united departments. If its extended boundaries remain permanent, an interesting portion of Germany, bordered by the Rhine, forms a valuable accession, including not only a great part of the Palatinate, with the cities of Mentz, Wurms, and Spires, but the country of Deux Ponts, supposed to contain 180,000 inhabitants.

| *Ancient Names.* | *Departments re-united.* | *Chief Towns.* |
|---|---|---|
| Territory of Avignon, county of Venaissin. | Vaucluse, with the Bouches du Rhone, | Avignon. |
| District of Apt. Savoy. | Mont Blanc, | Chambery. |
| County of Nice. | The Maritime Alps, | Nice. |
| Austrian Hainaut. | Jemmapes | Mons. |
| Western part of Austrian Flanders. | Lys, | Bruges. |
| Eastern part of Flanders. | Escaut, | Gand or Ghent. |
| Eastern part of Brabant. | Deux Nethes. | Anvers, (Antwerp.) |
| Southern part of Brabant. | Dyle, | Bruxelles. |
| Part of the country of Liege and of Gelderland. | Meuse inferieure. | Mäestricht. |

*Ancient*

| *Ancient Names.* | *Departments re-united.* | *Chief Towns.* |
|---|---|---|
| Part of the countries of Liege and of Limbourg. | Ourthe, | Liége. |
| County of Namur. | Sambre et Meuse. | Namur. |
| Duchy of Luxembourg. | Forêts, | Luxembourg. |
| Part of the Archbishoprick of Trêves. | Rhine et Moselle. | Coblentz. |
| Part of the Archbishoprick of Trêves, and of the Duchy of Deux Ponts. | Sarre, | Trêves. |
| Part of the Archbishoprick of Mayence and of the Duchy of Deux Ponts. | Mont Tonnerre. | Mayence. |
| Part of the Archbishoprick of Cologne, of the Duchy of Juliers, of Prussian Gelderland, of Cleves, Meurs, &c. | Roer, | Aix la Chapelle. |
| Of the territory of Geneva, of the districts of Gex, Larouge, Thonon, &c. | Leman, | Genéve. |

To these acquisitions must also be added, the recent annexation of the whole of Piedmont, and the isle of Elba.

CITIES and TOWNS.—Paris, the capital, rises on both sides the river Seine, in a pleasant and healthy situation. The banks of the Seine present noble quays, and the public buildings are not only elegant in themselves, but are placed in open and commanding situations. Paris exceeds London in magnificence, but yields greatly in cleanliness and convenience. It is supposed to be one third smaller than London, and consequently not to contain more than 400,000 inhabitants, though by some they have been estimated at 600,000.

Next to Paris, in extent and population, was the noble city of Lyons, on the Rhone, supposed to contain about 100,000 inhabitants, but in the infatuated reign of the jacobins it was doomed to destruction, and though this decree was only partially executed, it is not probable that Lyons will ever recover its ancient extent and opulence.

The third and fourth cities of France are Marseilles and Bourdeaux; each peopled by about 80,000 inhabitants. The port of Marseilles is one of the best and most frequented in the Mediterranean. The exchange is a noble building, and the new parts of the city are beautiful.

Bourdeaux was a prosperous city, but must have suffered greatly from the suspension of trade. The theatre is the most magnificent in France. As much as London exceeds Paris, so much did Bourdeaux, before the revolution, transcend Liverpool.

Amiens is a considerable town, with a population of about 40,000; but Rouen, formerly the capital of Normandy, contains 72,000 inhabitants, and

and carries on a considerable trade. Brest is more remarkable as the chief maritime arsenal of France in the N. than for its extent or population, which does not exceed 30,000. Nantes, at the mouth of the Loire, is a beautiful commercial city, with a splendid theatre, and many new streets, but the environs are barren and uninteresting. Orleans, a city of about 40,000 inhabitants, is celebrated for the siege which it sustained against the English in the fifteenth century. Nancy, in Lorrain, is one of the most beautiful cities in France. Strasbourg, seized by Louis XIV. is a venerable city, with a population of about 40,000. The fortifications are strong; and the gothic cathedral presents the well known spire of 574 feet in height.

Toulouse is a city of great extent, but the manufactures are trifling, though here the great canal terminates, opened by Louis XIV. from the Mediterranean to the Garonne. Montpelier, on the Mediterranean, with highly ornamented environs, and a noble aquaduct, is of considerable extent, but particularly celebrated for the salubrity of the air, and as an ancient school of medicine.

Among the towns, which formerly belonged to French Flanders, may be named Lisle and Valenciennes; the former more memorable for its strength than for its manufactures of camlets and stuffs. Valenciennes is also remarkable for the strength of its fortifications, and for its manufactures of lace, camlets, and cambrics.

In that part of the Netherlands, formerly subject to Austria, but which is now added to France, are three chief cities. Brussels, the capital, is situated on the small river Senne, which runs into the Dyle and the Scheld, and unites the

magnificence of Paris with the cleanliness of a Dutch town. The inhabitants are about 80,000.

Ghent is built on a number of little islands formed by four rivers and many canals, and includes gardens and even fields. The circumference of the walls is computed at 15 miles, and the inhabitants are about 60,000.

Antwerp exhibits the sad remains of great population and prosperity. The harbour is excellent, and the impediments are found to be imaginary. It still contains a number of the rich descendants of the ancient merchants, and has some commerce, and a few flourishing manufactures, particularly of lace and linen. Other principal towns are, Mons, Bruges, Namur, Luxembourg, Roermond, and Limbourg, the first having 25,000 inhabitants; the last only 8000.

On the sea coast of Flanders is Sluys, called by the French L'Ecluse, which derives its name from the number of sluices by which the circumjacent country may be laid under water. The haven is said to be capable of containing 500 ships. The port and population now yield greatly to those of Ostend. This is the only other haven on the Flemish shore, and it has been much frequented since the Scheld was abandoned. The town is computed to contain 14,000 inhabitants.

MOUNTAINS.—The principal mountains of France, or its borders, are the Alps, which divide France from Italy. If Mont Blanc be admitted among the mountains of France, it rises pre-eminent over the other Alps. Mount Jura forms part of the eastern boundary; and the Vosges, in the department of the same name, are supposed to be connected with the mountains of Switzerland. Considerable chains of mountains appear on the E. and W. of Deux Ponts, near the borders

ders of the Rhine, remarkable for mineral productions, especially mercury, and for beautiful agates. To the W. of the Rhone arises the grand chain of the Cevennes, which seems to run from N. to S. and to send out branches towards the E. and W. The northern part of the chain is styled the Puy de Dome; while the southern is called the Puy de Cantal. The Monts D'Or form the centre, and are the highest mountains in France.

The vast chain of the Pyrenees may be considered with equal justice as belonging to France or to Spain, but the most productive and interesting parts are on the side of France. The Pyrenean chain appears, at a distance, like a shaggy ridge, presenting the segment of a circle fronting France, and descending at each extremity, till it disappears in the Ocean and the Mediterranean. Mont Perdu is considered as the greatest elevation, towering about 11,000 feet in perpendicular height. Near the summit is a considerable lake, more than 9000 feet above the level of the sea, which throws its waters to the E. into the Spanish valley of Beoussa.

Rivers.—Of the rivers of France the most eminent are the Seine, the Loire, the Rhone, and the Garonne.

The Seine is a most beautiful stream, rising in the department of Côte d'Or, a portion of ancient Burgundy. It pursues its course to the N. W. visiting Troyes, Paris, and Rouen, and falls into the English channel at Havre de Grace, after a course of about 250 miles.

The Loire has its source in the mountains of ancient Languedoc, and after a northern direction to Orleans, suddenly turns to the W. entering the ocean considerably below Nantes, after a course of about 500 miles.

The Rhone springs from the mountains of Switzerland, and after passing the beautiful vales of the Vallais, and the lake of Geneva, meets the Saone at Lyons, and takes a sudden direction to the S. until it enters the Mediterranean sea. Its course is about 400 miles.

The Garonne rises in the vale of Arau, in the Pyrenees. The course of this river is generally N. W. and extends about 250 miles. It empties itself into the bay of Biscay, and has a communication with the Mediterranean, by means of a canal, the work of Louis XIV. After its junction with the Dordogne it assumes the name of the Gironde.

France is adorned and enriched with many rivers of smaller course and reputation, as the Saone, already mentioned; the Lot and Dordogne, which join the Garonne; and the numerous tributary streams of the Loire.

The Rhine, which now forms the grand barrier between France, Germany, and the United Provinces, receives the Moselle and the Maese, which pervade the country, formerly distinguished by the name of the Netherlands, now united to France. The Scheld, the Escaut of the French, is also a river of this country. It rises in Artois, and receives the Lys and the Scalpe. Its course may be estimated at 12 miles. The principal canals are those of Brusselles, Ghent, and Ostend.

UNIVERSITIES.—France formerly boasted of twenty-one universities. Of these the Sorbonne of Paris was the most celebrated. The academies or literary societies, were computed at thirty-nine. Those of Paris have been long known and distinguished: nor have public institutions of this kind been foreign to the consideration of the new government.

RELIGION

RELIGION.—The prevailing religion of France is the Roman Catholic. The professors agree in doctrine with the church of Rome, but do not acknowledge the authority of the Pope. All religions are now tolerated in an equal degree, and no citizen is subject to any civil disqualification on account of his theological opinions.

GOVERNMENT.—France was formerly governed by a king and parliament. The king was despotic; but the nation always considered the parliament as its natural guardian against the court. In the year 1789 a revolution took place, and the fall of despotism commenced with the destruction of the Bastile, July 14. Louis XVI. the last of the French kings, was condemned to lose his head on the scaffold, January 21, 1793. The Queen also was put to death under the guillotine, in the ensuing October. They both expired with composure and dignity. Since that period, the form of Government has been too unsettled to be described. At present it is a military despotism, regulated by the arbitrary will of Bonaparte, the acknowledged Emperor of the French; in whom is vested the power of nominating his successor.

## FRENCH ISLES.

THE isles around France are small and unimportant, except the isle of CORSICA, if it continue to be regarded as a part of the French territory. It is situated to the N. of Sardinia, in the Mediterranean sea. The air is thick and unwhole-

some, the territory full of mountains, of little fertility, and ill cultivated: the vallies, however, produce corn; and the hills, wine, fruit, and almonds.

The isles of HYERES, near Toulon, have a barren and naked appearance, and only present some melancholy pines.

On the western coast first occurs the isle of OLERON, about 14 miles long and two broad. To the N. is the isle of RE, opposite Rochelle. YEU is a small and insignificant isle, followed by NOIRMOUTIER, about eight miles long, and two in breadth.

BELLISLE has been repeatedly attacked by the English: it is about nine miles long and three broad, surrounded by steep rocks, which, with the fortifications, render the conquest difficult.

The isle of USHANT is remarkable as the furthest headland of France, towards the west, being about twelve miles from the continent, and about nine in circumference, with several hamlets, and about 600 inhabitants.

The isles of St. MARCON, about seven miles S. E. of La Hogue, have been in possession of the English, and are supposed to have received their name from a Norman Saint, of the sixth century.

RUSSIA.

# RUSSIA.

EXTENT.—In surveying this mighty Empire in its utmost extent, all those acquisitions must be included, now known by the name of SIBERIA, the whole comprehending the northern parts of Europe and Asia, stretching from the Baltic and Sweden on the W. to Kamschatka and the Eastern ocean; and from the Arctic sea, on the N. to the boundaries of Turkey, the Euxine and Caspian seas, Eastern and Western Tartary, and other unknown regions of Asia. This immense tract is about 9200 miles in length, and 2400 in breadth.

DIVISIONS.—The Empire of Russia, or of the Russias, which exceeds the Roman in the zenith of its power, or the Empire of Darius subdued by Alexander, is distributed into the northern, the middle, and the southern regions, which according to the most authentic accounts, are again divided into 42 governments, named after those towns in which courts of judicature are established.

The northern division contains the governments of St. Petersburg, Archangel, Olonetz, Vybourg, Revel, Riga, Pscov, Tver, Novogorod, Vologda, Yaroslav, Kostroma, Viatka, Perm, and Tobolsk.

The middle division contains the governments of Moscov, or Moscow, generally called Mosqua, by the Russians, Smolensk, Polotsk, Moghilev, Tchernigov, Novogorod, Sieverskov, Kharkov, Koursk, Orel, Kalouga, Toola, Riazan, Vladimir,

Nizney

Nizney Novogorod, Kazan, Simbirsk, Penza, Tambov, Voronez, Saratov, Oufa, Kolhyvan, and Irkutsk.

The southern division contains the governments of Kiev, Catherinoslav, with the kingdom of Taurida, Caucasus, and the territory of the Don Kozaks.

POPULATION.—The population of this country is estimated at 36,000,000; of which only 3,500,000 are assigned to Asiatic Russia, which contains the five governments of Perm, Oufa, Kolhyvan, Tobolsk, and Irkutsk. But Perm itself being on the European side of the Uralian mountains, thirty three millions may be allowed for the population of Russia in Europe.

SITUATION.—That part of Russia which lies within the boundaries of Europe, extends from the Frozen ocean, in the 72nd degree of N. lat. to the shores of the Euxine, in the 45th degree of the same latitude, on the S. It is divided from Sweden on the N. W. by the mountains of Olonetz and the gulph of Finland; and on the W. it is separated from the Prussian acquisitions in Poland, by the river Niemen; from those of Austria by the Bug; and from Turkey, on the S. W. by the Dniester, till it joins the old border of Russia and Poland at Jegertic. The boundaries on the east, are the Uralian mountains, the river Volga, and the Don, which divide Europe from Asia.

This division, extending from the Uralian mountains to the Dniester, is about 1600 miles in length; and the breadth from N. to S. is above 1000 miles.

CITIES and TOWNS.—Petersburg, the imperial residence, was built by Peter the Great, in a marshy situation on the river Neva, near the bottom of the gulph of Finland. The houses are chiefly

chiefly of wood, but the quays are built of granite. It is said to contain 170,000 inhabitants.

Moscow, the ancient capital, dates from the year 1300: it is of considerable extent and population. Prior to the pestilence, A. D. 1771, the inhabitants were supposed to be 200,000. Peter the Great designed a canal from this city to Petersburg, connecting the gulph of Finland with the Volga and the Caspian sea, but the scheme failed through the ignorance of the engineers.

Astracan, at the mouth of the river Volga, is supposed to stand next to Petersburg in population. Cronstadt, in the government of Petersburg; Kollonna, in that of Moscow; Cherson, at the mouth of the Dnieper; and Caffa, in Taurida, are extensive and populous cities: Riga, on the gulph of the same name, at the mouth of the Duna; and Archangel, the port of the White sea, are also cities of considerable trade and consequence.

MOUNTAINS.—European Russia is a plain country, though some parts of it are greatly elevated, as the region between Petersburg and Moscow, from which issue the Duina, the Volga, and the Dnieper, flowing into opposite seas. This tract is sometimes called the mountains of Valday, from the town and lake of Valday, situated on the ridge. From Valday to the Euxine scarcely a mountain occurs, except those of Taurida, which are rather romantic than remarkable. The most important chains are those which form the boundaries. That of Olonetz runs in a direction almost due N. for the space of 15 degrees, or about 900 geographical miles. The immense Uralian chain extends from about the 50th nearly to the 67th deg. of N. lat. or about 1000 geographical miles, and by the Russians has been called *Semenoi Poias*, or the girdle of the world,

world, though greatly exceeded by the chain of the Andes, in South America, which extends nearly 5000 miles.

RIVERS.—Among the chief rivers of Russia, the majestic Volga challenges the first attention. It properly belongs to the continent of Europe, in which it arises, and from which it derives its supplies. Its remote origin is the lake Seliger, in the government of Tver. At Tzaritzin, about 250 miles from its mouth, it turns S. E. into Asia, and its comparative course may be computed at 1700 miles. This noble river having no cataracts, and but few shoals, is navigable even to Tver. The tributary rivers are chiefly from the east; the principal of which is the Kama, which rivals the Volga at their junction. On the west it is fed by the Oka, which rises in the government of Orel.

Next to the Volga, on the west, is the Don or Tanais, which rises from a lake in the government of Toola, and falls into the sea of Azov, after a course of about 800 miles.

The Dnieper, the ancient Boristhenes, rises in the government of Smolensk, and after a course of 1000 miles, through rich and fertile provinces, falls into the Euxine.

The Dniester now forms the boundary between European Turkey and Russia, deriving its source from the N. side of the Carpathian mountains, and falling into the Euxine, at Akerman, after a course of about 600 miles.

The Duna or Duina, which forms the port of Riga, pursues a course of 500 miles, but has some considerable and dangerous falls, and sometimes greatly injures the city of Riga, at the breaking up of the ice.

Several important rivers direct their course towards the Arctic ocean, among which is the Cara,

Cara, which forms the boundary between Europe and Asia, for the space of about 140 miles, the Uralian chain terminating at that distance from the sea of Cara-skoi, or Karskoi. The Petshora which rises in these mountains, joins the Frozen ocean, after a course of 450 miles. Next, on the west, is the Mezen, which falls into the White sea, after a course of 350 miles; and the Dwina, a more considerable river, which falls into the gulph of Archangel. Its course is about 500 miles. The Onega is the only remaining river of consequence, for those of Olonetz and Lapland are unimportant.

LAKES.—The chief lakes of European Russia are situated in the N. W. division of the Empire. Imandra, in Russian Lapland, is of considerable extent. Onega, in the government of Olonetz, is 150 miles in length, by a medial breadth of about 30. To the W. is Ladoga, about 130 miles in length, by 70 in breadth, being one of the largest lakes in Europe. Its northern shores produce the beautiful Finnish marble, which is so much used at Petersburg. On the S. W. is Pepus, about 60 miles in length by 50 in breadth. The northern part is called Ishud; the southern, lake Pscov. To the E. is lake Ilmen, on which stands the ancient city of Novogorod.

UNIVERSITIES.—Three colleges were founded by Peter the Great at Moscow, which do not seem to have met with deserved success. The University of Petersburg was founded by Catharine II. and is a noble instance of munificence.

RELIGION.—The religion of Russia is that of the Greek church, and differs considerably from the Roman, though often in minute circumstances. The clergy are very numerous, and have several privileges, particularly exemption from

from taxes. The Bishoprics amount to about thirty.

GOVERNMENT.—The government appears to have been always despotic, there being no legislative power distinct from that of the Sovereign. The Senate is only the supreme court of Judicature. The whole frame of government may be pronounced to be military, and nobility itself is virtually estimated only by rank in the army.

## RUSSIAN ISLES.

THE small island of CRONSTADT in the gulph of Finland, is only remarkable for an excellent haven, strongly fortified, and the chief station of the Russian fleet. OESEL and DAGO in the Baltic, are of considerable size, but full of rocks. The marble of the former is remarkably beautiful.

There are several isles near the shore of Russian Lapland, and in the White sea, but they are generally barren and uninhabited rocks. NOVAYA ZEMLIA, or the New Land, is also uninhabited, and is said to consist of five islands, but the channels between them are always filled with ice. The Russians have taken possession of the remote and dreary isles of SPITSBERGEN, and a kind of colony is maintained from Archangel. The Mainland extends about 300 miles, from the S. cape, lat. 76°. 30′. to Verlegan Hook, lat. 80 deg. To the N. E. of this dreary group are the small isles, called the the SEVEN SISTERS, the most arctic land yet discovered.

AUSTRIAN

# AUSTRIAN DOMINIONS.

THE dominions subject to the house of Austria embrace many ancient kingdoms and states, of which the following are the principal. The Archduchy of Austria; the kingdoms of Hungary and Bohemia; the grand-duchy of Transylvania, which, with the Buckovina, may be regarded as belonging to Hungary; and lastly, that part of Poland, which has fallen under the Austrian sceptre.

BOUNDARIES.—Towards the E. the Austrian dominions border on those of Russia and Turkey, and to the N. on those of Prussia, Upper Saxony, Bavaria, and Swabia. On the western extremity are Switzerland, and the Italian States.

EXTENT and POPULATION.—The extent of this country from the frontiers of Switzerland to the utmost limits of Transylvania, may be about 760 miles; and the breadth from the river Bug, which forms a boundary between Austria and Prussian Poland, to the Save, which divides the Austrian from the Turkish sovereignty, is about 520 miles, supporting a population of more than twenty millions.

DIVISIONS.—The state of the Austrian dominions has been considerably changed by recent events. Venice has become part of the kingdom of Italy. Tyrol has been assigned to the elector, now king of Bavaria, who also shares with the new king of Wirtemberg the Austrian possessions in Swabia. But the counties of Salz-

burg and Berchtolsgaden are incorporated with the empire of Austria, which, it has been asserted, is to be further indemnified by the acquisition of Bosnia and Servia from the Turks.

Thus circumscribed, the Austrian territory comprehends,

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. The Circle of Austria, including | The Archduchy of Austria. | Vienna. |
| | The duchy of Stiria, | Gratz. |
| | The duchy of Carniola. | |
| | The duchy of Carinthia. | |
| 2. The kingdom of Bohemia, | | Prague. |
| 3. Moravia, | | Brunn. |
| 4. Part of the duchy of Silesia, | | Troppou. |
| 5. Part of Bavaria, E. of the Inn. | | |
| 6. Hungary, including | Upper Hungary, | Presburg. |
| | Lower Hungary, | Buda. |
| | Slavonia, | Eszeg. |
| | Croatia, | Carlstadt. |
| 7. Transylvania, | | Herman-stadt. |
| 8. Part of Poland, bordered by the Bug, | Galitzia, | Lemburg. |
| | Lodomiria, | Cracow. |

CITIES and TOWNS.—Vienna, the chief city of the Austrian dominions, lies on the southern, or rather on the western side of the Danube, which is here very wide, and contains several woody isles. The manufactures are not inconsiderable, and the inhabitants are computed at 254,000. The suburbs, called Leopold-stadt, are far more extensive

extensive than the city, standing at a considerable distance from the walls.

The second city is Prague, the metropolis of Bohemia. It stands on both sides of the river Mulda, over which there is a noble bridge of stone. The population is estimated at 80,000, a sixth part of which consists of Jews.

Next in importance, though at a great distance, is Gratz, the capital of Stiria. This city stands on the western side of the river Muehr, joined by a bridge to an extensive suburb on the opposite bank. There are regular fortifications; and on a bold rock near this river, is placed a strong citadel.

Presburg, the capital of Hungary, only contains about 27,000 inhabitants, its precedence being of modern date, after Buda, the ancient capital had been repeatedly taken by the Turks. It is beautifully situated on the Danube, which is here very rapid, and about 250 yards in breadth. About one quarter of the inhabitants are Lutherans, and Jews also abound in this city.

Buda, by the Germans called Offen, is now reduced to little more than 20,000 inhabitants; but if the city of Pesth be included, which stands on the opposite side of the river, the population may be computed at more than 34,000. The chief public and private buildings are in Pesth, and within the fortress. The seat of provincial government, and the public offices being now restored to Buda, it may still be regarded as the capital of Hungary.

Hermanstadt, the capital of Transylvania, is supposed to contain 17,000 inhabitants. It is the chief seat of the Saxon colony, but the air is unhealthy.

The Buckovina contains no town of consequence.

That part of Poland, which has been added to Austria, contains Lemberg, or Leopold, Cracow, and some other considerable towns; Lemberg has 20,000 inhabitants, and Cracow, anciently the capital of the kingdom, is supposed to contain 24,000. This city stands on the Vistula, and has a castle, but is poorly fortified.

Brunn, in Moravia is computed at 18,000 inhabitants; and Olmutz, in the same country, at 12,000; and the latter number is also assigned to Troppou, in the Austrian part of Silesia.

Trieste is the only sea-port belonging to Austria. It is situated on a gulph of the Adriatic, and rises on an ascent, which is crowned by a castle. The neighbourhood produces excellent wines. The inhabitants are reckoned at 18,000.

MOUNTAINS.—Among the most elevated chains, which diversify the Austrian territories, are the Rhætian or Tyrolese Alps, now called the Brenner mountains. These chiefly proceed in a direction from S. W. to N. E. or from the Valteline to the Archbishopric of Salzburg. The mountain, which is specially called the Brenner, is only about 5,100 feet above the sea.

The provinces of Carinthia and Carniola present many considerable chains of mountains; as that of Lobel, which separates these countries; and the Julian or Carnic Alps, now called Birnbaumer Wald, which divide Carinthia from Italy.

Towards the N. Austria is divided from Bohemia by a ridge of considerable elevation, which passes to the N. E. of Bavaria. On the N. W. Bohemia is parted from Saxony by a chain of metallic mountains called Erzgeberg, a word that implies hills containing mines. On the N. E. the Sudetic chain, which branches from the Carpathian, divides Bohemia and Moravia from Silesia and the Prussian dominions.

The

The Carpathian mountains, that grand and extensive chain, which bounds Hungary on the N. and E. have been celebrated from all antiquity. By the Germans they are styled the mountains of Krapak; the Hungarians call them Tatra. This enormous ridge extends in a semicircular form, from the S. of Silesia to the confines of Buckovina, a circuit of about 500 miles. The highest summits of these mountains do not exceed eight or nine thousand feet.

RIVERS.—Of the chief rivers which pervade the Austrian dominions, the Danube commands the first attention. This magnificent stream rises in Swabia. Though the course is occasionally impeded by small falls and whirlpools, it is navigable through a prodigious extent, and after watering Swabia, Bavaria, Austria Proper, Hungary, and Turkey in Europe, joins the Euxine or Black sea. Its comparative circuit is about 1300 British miles, about one half of its progress being through the territories of Austria.

Next in consequence is the Tiess, rising from the Carpathian mountains towards Buckovina. Bending to the W. it receives many tributary streams, and afterwards turning to the S. falls into the Danube, not far to the W. of Belgrade, after a course of 420 miles. At Belgrade the Danube receives the Sau or Save, which forms a boundary between Austria and Turkey. It rises in the mountains of Carniola, and pursues a course nearly equal in length to that of the Tiess. The Drau or Drave extends about 350 miles from its source, in the eastern mountains of Tyrol, till it joins the Danube below Eszeg.

The Inn rises in Switzerland. Near its source this powerful river is more gentle than other Alpine streams, but soon becomes more precipitous, and joins the Danube at Passau, with a

weight of water nearly equal to that stream, after a course of about 250 miles.

The Mulda is a considerable river, which rises in the southern mountains of Bohemia, and falls into the Elbe below Prague. The Elbe itself arises in the Sudetic chain, between Bohemia and Silesia, and waters a great part of the former kingdom before it enters Saxony, bending its course N. W.. towards the German sea. The Morau, whence Moravia derives its name, also arises in the Sudetic mountains, and passing Olmutz, joins the Danube not far to the W. of Presburg.

LAKES.—The lakes in the Austrian dominions are numerous, and some of them of considerable size. The most important is that of Platte, or the Platten See, in Hungary, extending about 45 miles in length by eight in breadth, and abounding with fish. The Neusilder lake, about thirty miles S. E. of Vienna, is 13 miles in length, and four in breadth. It is chiefly remarkable for being in the vicinity of Eisenstadt, the princely residence of the family of Esterhazy.

UNIVERSITIES.—The universities of Austria, like those of other catholic countries, little promote the progress of real knowledge. They are those of Vienna, Prague, Inspruck, and Gratz. Hungary chiefly boasts of Buda, and its museum of natural history may be ranked among the fine collections of Europe.

RELIGION.—The prevailing religion of the Austrian dominions is the Roman Catholic, but attended with a considerable degree of toleration. Protestants of various sects are found in Bohemia and Moravia: in Hungary they are supposed to equal the Catholics in number. The Archbishop of Vienna is a prince of the Holy Roman Empire.

GOVERNMENT.

GOVERNMENT.—The form of government is an hereditary monarchy, approaching to absolute power; for the military force being wholly in the hands of the sovereign, and his dominions so various and extensive, no distinct kingdom or state can withstand his will.

# PRUSSIA.

THIS kingdom has become so extensive by gradual accessions, as deservedly to rank among the first powers of Europe. The dominions of Prussia were small and scattered, till the acquisition of Silesia, and afterwards of a third part of Poland, gave a broad and apparently firm basis to the new monarchy.

BOUNDARIES.—On the N. Prussia is bounded by Mecklenburg, Swedish Pomerania, and the Baltic sea; on the S. by Upper Saxony, and on the S. E. and E. by the dominions of Austria and Russia: the western limits adjoin to the Bishopric of Hildesheim and Lower Saxony.

EXTENT and POPULATION.—Exclusive of small detached territories, this kingdom now extends from the country of Halberstadt, the farthest western connected district, to the river Memel, about 600 miles. The breadth, from the southern limit of Silesia to Dantzick, exceeds 300 miles. The population of the whole of the Prussian territories amounts to more than nine millions.

The following table contains a list of the provinces into which this kingdom is distributed, and of their chief towns:

*Provinces.*

| | *Provinces.* | *Cities* |
|---|---|---|
| Contiguous States | 1. Eastern Prussia, | Konigsburgh. |
| | 2. Western Prussia, | Dantzic, Elbing. |
| | 3. Southern Prussia. | |
| | 4. New Eastern Prussia, | Thorn. |
| | 5. Pomerania, | Stettin, Stargard. |
| | 6. Brandenburg or Middlemarch. | Berlin, Potsdam, Frankfort on the Oder, Brandenburg. |
| | 7. Newmarch. | |
| | 8. Magdeburg, | Magdeburg. Halle. |
| | 9. Halberstadt or Uckermarch, | Halberstadt, Quedlingburg. |
| | 10. Silesia, | Breslaw. |
| In Westphalia. | 11. Minden. | |
| | 12. Ravensburg. | |
| | 13. East Friesland, | Embden. |
| | 14. Mark, | Ham. |
| | 15. Tecklinburg. | |
| | 16. Lingen. | |

Among the most recent acquisitions made by Prussia, may be named Hildesheim, Paderborn, Munster, &c.

Cleves, Gelders, and Maers, and the countries of Anspach and Bareuth have been ceded to the French arrangements in Germany; and Neufchatel and Vallengin have also been abandoned. The Prussian division of Poland is now suspended; and the issue of the late contest, and the union which has been formed between France and Russia, threaten still farther to circumscribe the limits of this kingdom.

The

The superficial extent of the contiguous provinces of Prussia, is estimated at more than 80,000 square miles, and that of the detached territories at more than 8,000, or about one tenth of the whole.

CITIES and TOWNS.—The chief city of the Prussian dominions is Berlin, situated on the banks of the river Spree, and regularly fortified; being about four miles and a half long and three wide. But within this inclosure are many gardens, and sometimes even fields. This city is more remarkable for the elegance of the buildings than for its wealth or industry, many beautiful houses being let in stories to mechanics. The inhabitants are said to be upwards of 150,000.

Next to Berlin is Konigsberg. This city is well fortified, and maintains a considerable trade by the river Pregel, which flows into the gulph of Dantzic. The population is estimated at 52,000.

Breslaw, the capital of Silesia, has long been celebrated as one of the most beautiful cities of Germany. The population is at least equal to that of Konigsberg; and it has several manufactures, the linens of Silesia being particularly celebrated.

Dantzick has long been known as a commercial town, and contains about 46,000 inhabitants. It may still be considered as the grand mart for corn, and other products of Poland, but its commerce has been for some time on the decline.

Warsaw, the former capital of Poland, if it may now be regarded as a Prussian city, stands partly in a plain, and partly on a gentle ascent rising from the Vistula. It wears a melancholy appearance, and its population must have been greatly thinned by the ravages of war, though the inhabitants are still estimated at more than 60,000.

Brandenburg,

Brandenburg, in the electorate of that name, is a small city; but Frankfort, on the Oder, contains about 16,000 inhabitants. Potsdam, is situated on an island amidst lakes and canals, and no expence has been spared in its decoration. The inhabitants are computed at 26,000. An equal population distinguishes Magdeburg, the capital of the duchy. It is strongly fortified with a citadel on an isle in the Elbe. In the same duchy stands Halle, more than 50 miles to the S. The inhabitants are 21,000. In the adjoining principality is Halberstadt, the capital, containing 12,500 inhabitants, in which number it is rivalled by Quedlinburg in the same province. The remote town of Neufchatel, on the borders of Switzerland, no longer included under the sceptre of Prussia, contains only about 6000 inhabitants.

In Pomerania, on the N. first occurs Stettin, a city on the Oder, of some trade, and about 18,000 inhabitants. Those of Stargard are not estimated at more than 6000.

In Prussia, properly so called, may be named Elbing, having 14,000 inhabitants. Thorn, in the adjacent territory has only 10,000. In addition to Breslaw, the capital already mentioned, Silesia contains three towns with more than 6000 inhabitants: these are Glogau, Hirschberg, and Schweidnitz; and besides Warsaw, there are several recently acquired towns in Poland, if they be allowed to belong to Prussia, which equal this population.

MOUNTAINS.—The only mountains in the Prussian dominions are those of Silesia. Those in the S. and W. of this province may be regarded as a northern branch of the Carpathian chain, which itself forms the most southern boundary. This branch extends nearly 200 miles in length, and is called the Sudetic chain.

RIVERS.

RIVERS.—Among the chief rivers of the Prussian dominions may be reckoned the Elbe, which rises in the S. of Bohemia, and pervades the duchy of Magdeburg. The Spree, which passes Berlin, falls into the Havel, a tributary of the Elbe. The Oder may be regarded as a river entirely Prussian: it rises in the mountains of Moravia, and watering Silesia, Brandenburg, and Pomerania, joins the Baltic, after a course of about 350 miles. Next appears the Vistula, which, rising in the Carpathian mountains, passes Warsaw, and joins the sea near Dantzick, after a circuit of about 450 miles. The Pregel, passing by Konigsberg, springs from some lakes and marshes in Prussian Poland; and the Memel, a superior river, now forms, in part, the Prussian boundary on the east. This river, or rather the Nimen, is joined by a canal to the river Pripaz, which falls into the Dneiper; but the cataracts in the latter river, about 250 miles above its estuary, greatly impede the intercourse that might thus be established with the Euxine.

LAKES.—The lakes in the Prussian dominions are numerous, especially in the eastern part. Of these the Spelding See may be particularly mentioned, which, with its creeks, extends more than 20 miles in every direction.

At their estuaries, the rivers Oder, Vistula, and Memel, present singular inland sheets of water, in the German language called *Haffs*; that of the Oder being styled Grass Haff; that of the Vistula, Frisch Haff, which has another inland creek called the lake of Drausen; and that of the Memel, Curisch Haff. The Frisch Haff is about seventy miles in length, and from three to ten in breadth, being separated from the Baltic by a long strip of land, said to have been thrown up by

by the tempests and waves about the year 1190. This lake or bay is of small depth, and will not admit vessels of much burden. The Curisch Haff is about 60 miles in length, and about 30 in its greatest breadth. It is full of dangerous shoals, and is subject to frequent storms.

UNIVERSITIES.—The universities are those of Frankfort on the Oder, Halle, Erlangen, and Konigsberg. Posna or Posen, in Poland, now become subject to Prussia, is also a royal school.

RELIGION.—The religion of Prussia is the Protestant, under its two chief divisions of Lutheran, and Calvinistic. But if the recent acquisitions in Poland be included, a great part of the inhabitants are Roman Catholics.

GOVERNMENT.—The government of this country is absolute, and in some degree military, but moderated by the spirit and good sense of the nation, and by the wisdom and mildness of its successive monarchs.

# SPAIN.

SITUATION and EXTENT.—Spain lies between the 36th and 44th degrees of N. lat. and its western extremity is about nine deg. W. long. of London. The greatest extent from W. to E. is about 600 miles; the breadth from N. to S. is more than 500. Including Portugal, which is a distinct and independent kingdom, this country forms almost a compact square, surrounded on all sides by the sea, except where the Pyrenean hills form a grand natural barrier against France; having

ing the Bay of Biscay on the N. the Atlantic on the W. and the strait of Gibraltar and the Mediterranean on the S. and E. It is separated from Portugal by artificial boundaries, and not by rivers, mountains, or other remarkable features of nature.

POPULATION.—The population of this country is estimated at 11,000,000.

DIVISIONS.—The most recent divisions of Spain are the following:

| *Situation.* | *Provinces.* | *Towns.* |
|---|---|---|
| On the Bay of Biscay. | 1. Gallicia, | Compostella, Corunna. |
| | 2. Asturias, including Oviedo and Santillana, | Oviedo. |
| | 3. Biscay, including Biscay, Guipuscoa, and Alava. | Bilboa. |
| On the French frontier. | 4. Navarre, | Pampelona. |
| | 5. Arragon, | Saragossa. |
| | 6. Catalonia, | Barcelona. |
| On the Mediterranean coast. | 7. Valencia, | Valencia. |
| | 8. Murcia, | Murcia. |
| | 9. Granada, | Granada, Malaga. |
| Near the strait of Gibraltar. | 10. Andalusia, including Seville, Cordova, and Jaen, | Seville, Cadiz. |
| On the frontier of Portugal. | 11. Estremadura, | Badajos. |
| | 12. Leon, including Leon, Palencia, Zamora, and Salamanca. | Leon, Salamanca. |

| *Situation.* | *Provinces.* | *Cities.* |
|---|---|---|
| Midland. | 13. Old Castile, including Burgos, Avila, and Segovia. | Burgos. |
| | 14. New Castile, including Toledo or Algarvia, Cuença or La Sierra, and La Mancha. | Madrid, Toledo. |

CITIES and TOWNS.—Madrid is the residence of the Spanish monarch, though Seville is esteemed the capital of the country. Its centrical position seems the chief advantage of Madrid, for the environs can boast but little beauty or variety. The river Mançenares, over which there is an elegant bridge, is in winter a torrent, but dry in summer. At Madrid are the royal manufactures of china, saltpetre, &c. but the city has little trade, and chiefly prospers by the presence of the court, and the confluence of the great, to the great injury of the kingdom at large.

Next in real importance are the principal seaports. The commerce of America formerly entered at Seville, by the Guadalquiver, but afterwards removed to Cadiz, which is supposed to contain 70,000 inhabitants.

Malaga is esteemed the second port in the kingdom, and is also celebrated for excellent wines. It stands in a valley surrounded by hills; the houses are high, and the streets are narrow and dirty. The inhabitants are about 40,000.

Towards the S. E. is Barcelona, the third considerable port of Spain. The inhabitants are computed at 100,000; and industry is generally prevalent, being a native virtue of the Catalonians.

ans. The chief manufactures are silk, cotton, and wool; and excellent fire arms and cutlery. Barcelona stands in a plain, open to the S. E. but protected by hills on the N. and W. and is a healthy and delightful residence, except during the prevalence of easterly winds, which are accompanied with fog.

On the north-western shore is Corunna, styled by our mariners the Groyn. The town is of a circular form, and the harbour is large and safe; but the poverty of the surrounding province of Galicia affords few resources for trade. As labourers and servants, the natives are universally esteemed for their probity and fidelity.

Of the chief inland cities, Oviedo and Leon are now inconsiderable, and only boast their ancient fame, as successive capitals of Spanish royalty. The cathedral of Leon is admired for its elegant lightness.

Pampelona is the capital of Navarre. The inhabitants are about 5000. Burgos, in old Castile, is the see of an Archbishop, and retains vestiges of its former opulence. Valladolid, in the same province, has some woollen manufactures, and contains many goldsmiths and jewellers.

Saragossa is the chief town of Arragon, but there are no manufactures; though these will probably be encouraged on the opening of the projected canal through the province, from the mouth of the Ebro, on the E. to St. Ander, in the western extremity of Biscay, a distance of about 250 miles; thus uniting the Mediterranean with the Atlantic.

On the S. of Madrid first occurs Toledo, a city of considerable fame, and in a remarkable situation. The river Tajo, or Tagus, passes between two mountains, and almost surrounds one of them, on which is placed the city, rising like a cone.

Toledo was formerly the royal residence, and contains a grand palace; but the inhabitants, once calculated at 200,000, are now reduced to 25,000.

Badajos, in Estramadura, is remarkable for its position on the very confines of Portugal, and is the see of a bishopric.

In the S. W. Murcia, the capital of the province so called, is of considerable account, and situated in one of the most beautiful vallies in Spain. There is a fine bridge over the Segura, and the cathedral is lofty, though not remarkably beautiful. The inhabitants are probably about 60,000.

Granada has long been celebrated as the paradise of Spain. It stands in a vale bounded by hills, beyond which, to the S. is the Sierra Nevada. There are beautiful public walks, and the environs are delightful and well cultivated.

Mountains.—The Spanish mountains are arranged by nature in several distinct chains. The most northern is regarded as a continuation of the Pyrenees, passing on the S. of Biscay and the Asturias, in Galicia. The second chain extends nearly from Soria, on the N. E. and pursues a south-western direction towards Portugal. This chain is called Urbia or Guadarama, and also the Montes Carpentanos.

The third is that of Toledo, running nearly parallel with the last. Next towards the S. is the Sierra Morena, which is followed by the most southern ridge, the Sierra Nevada, so called, because these mountains are covered with perpetual snow.

On the E. there is a considerable chain, which connects the two central ridges, and advances towards the Mediterranean, on the N. of Valencia. There are also several considerable ranges

ranges of hills in this part of the kingdom, generally running from N. to S.

Montserrat is a remarkable solitary mountain, not far from Barcelona. At a distance it appears like a sugar loaf, but on a nearer approach seems jagged like a saw, with pyramidal rocks. It is so high, that the islands of Majorca and Minorca, at the distance of 50 leagues, may be discerned from its summit. Not far from Montserrat is a hill three miles in circumference, which is one mass of rock salt, used in the dry climate of Spain, for vases and trinkets, like the Derbyshire spar of England.

RIVERS.—Among the chief rivers of Spain may be named the Ebro, the ancient Iberus, from which this country was named Iberia. This noble stream rises in the mountains of Asturias, and pursuing its course to the S. E. enters the Mediterranean sea below Tortosa, after having run about 380 geographical miles. Towards the W. occurs the Guadalquiver. This river originates in the Sierra Morena, and flows into the gulph of Cadiz, after a course of nearly 300 geographical miles. The Guadiana rises on the N. side of the Sierra Morena, or rather derives its chief sources from the mountains of Toledo: it pursues a part of its course through Portugal, and falls into the gulph of Cadiz, after a circuit nearly equal to that of the Ebro. But the chief river of Spain and Portugal is the Tajo, or Tagus, which rises in the W. of Arragon, and holds a course of about 450 geographical miles. The Douro springs near the ruins of ancient Numantia; its course may be computed at 350 geographical miles. The Minho rises in the mountains of Galicia; forming part of the boundary between that province and Portugal. Its course does not exceed 160 geographical miles.

UNIVERSITIES.—The universities, or rather the academies of Spain, are computed at upwards of twenty; of which the most noted is that of Salamanca; but the students, though numerous, have no advantages of attaining knowledge; all improvement being precluded by the ignorance of the teachers, and by the influence of religious prejudice and bigotry.

RELIGION.—The religion of Spain is the Roman Catholic, which in this country and in Portugal, has been carried to a pitch of fanaticism, unknown to the Italian states, or even to the papal territory. The inquisition, in these unhappy kingdoms, has been invested with exorbitant power, and produced the most ruinous effects; but the evil has lately, in a considerable degree, been restrained.

GOVERNMENT.—The government of Spain is despotic; the states or cortes having scarcely ever been assembled since the time of Charles V. The despotism of the monarchy is balanced by the power of the church, to which the nobles are submissive devotees. It is also tempered by many councils, who are responsible for any unwise or unsuccessful measures.

## SPANISH ISLES.

THE chief circumjacent isles belonging to Spain are Majorca, Minorca, and Eviza. MAJORCA is about 55 miles in length, by 45 in breadth. The north-western part is hilly; the rest abounds with cultivated land, vineyards, orchards, &c. Majorca is generally in too strong a state of defence to

to admit of an easy conquest, but MINORCA has been repeatedly seized by the English, to whom it presents an advantageous situation for the Mediterranean trade. It is 30 miles in length, by about 12 in breadth. Cittadella, the capital, has a tolerable haven; but the population and fortifications are of little consequence. Port Mahon, on the S. E. has an excellent harbour, and received its name from Mago, the Carthaginian general. EVIZA is the nearest to Spain, and is about 15 miles long, and 12 broad. It is remarkable for fruits, and abundance of excellent salt.

# TURKEY IN EUROPE.

THE Turkish Empire, now sinking before the power of Russia, and probably endangered by the designs of France, yet retains an extent and population, sufficient to entitle it to a chief place among the sovereignties both of Europe and of Asia.

EXTENT.—Turkey in Europe extends about 870 miles in length, from the northern boundary of Moldavia to Cape Matapan, in the Morea. The breadth from the western extremity of Constantinople, is about 680 miles.

BOUNDARIES.—The eastern and southern boundaries are formed by the Euxine or Black sea, the sea of Marmora, the Archipelago, and the Mediterranean; the utmost limit on the N. E. is the river Dniester; on the N. W. this country is divided from Austria by the Save; but the western boundary often consists of an arbitrary line.

POPULATION.—Turkey in Europe has been supposed to contain 8,000,000 of inhabitants, but this number is probably too great, as these regions are intersected by many mountainous and barren tracts.

DIVISIONS.—The Turkish Empire embraces many ancient kingdons and republics, as appears from the following table of the modern division of its provinces:

| *Provinces.* | *Ancient names.* | *Towns.* |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Moldavia. | N. of the Danube, part of Dacia, | Jassy, or Yassy. |
| 2. Bessarabia. | The country of the Getæ and Peucini, | Bender. |
| 3. Walachia. | Also part of Dacia, | Bucharest. |
| 4. Bulgaria. | S. of the Danube, anciently Mœsia, | Silistria. |
| 5. Romelia, lying on the north and west of the Archipelago. | Contains Thracia, Pœonia, Macedonia, and the northern part of the classical country of Greece, | Constantinople, anciently Byzantium, Adrianople, Salonica, Larissa, Atini or Athens. |
| 6. The Morea. | Peloponnesus. | |
| 7. Albania. | Including Epirus, Chaonia, and part of Illyricum. | |
| 8. Dalmatia, on the gulph of Venice. | Retaining its ancient name. | |

*Provinces.*

| *Provinces.* | *Ancient names.* | *Towns.* |
|---|---|---|
| 9. Servia. | Part of Pannonia. | Belgrade. |
| 10. Bosnia. | Part of Pannonia. | Banjaluka. |
| 11. Turkish Croatia, S. of the Save | Part of Pannonia, and a small district of Noricum. | |

In recent times, Turkey has lost the provinces of the Krim, and new Servia, which, with several Asiatic districts, have become subject to Russia; and on the W. Transylvania, Sclavonia, the Buckovina, part of Moldavia, and a great part of Croatia, have fallen under the power of Austria.

CITIES and TOWNS.—The chief city of European Turkey, and of the Turkish empire, is Constantinople, founded by Constantine, on the site of the ancient Byzantium. This capital forms an unequal triangle, enclosed by walls, and on two sides by the sea, and the harbour, called the Golden Horn. The inhabitants are computed at 400,000, including the four suburbs. Half of these are Turks, a fourth part are Greeks, and the remainder Jews, Armenians, and Franks. The frequent visitations of the pestilence render Constantinople an unpleasant and dangerous residence.

Next in dignity and extent is Adrianople. This city, which stands 140 miles to the N. W. of Constantinople, is washed by the Hebrus, now called the Maritz, which here receives two tributary streams. It is of a circular form, surrounded by a wall and towers. The commerce of this city, by means of the river, is not inconsiderable.

The city of Sosia, situated in a low country, N. W. of Adrianople, has a considerable trade, but is meanly built. The inhabitants are computed at 70,000.

Silistria,

Silistria, on the river Danube, is computed to contain 60,000 inhabitants, and Bucharest, the chief city of Walachia, an equal number; but Jassy, or Yassy, the leading town of Moldavia, and Bender, of Bessarabia, are only estimated at ten or twelve thousand.

Belgrade, the capital of Servia, is now destitute of fortifications, but is supposed to contain 25,000 inhabitants. Banjaluka in Bosnia, is also a considerable town.

In the more southern provinces is Salonica, a city of considerable commerce, seated on a noble gulph of the Archipelago. Inhabitants about 60,000. About 80 miles to the S. is Larissa, an inland town, but supposed to contain 25,000 inhabitants. Atini, the ancient Athens, is of small population; and this region of classical cities now scarcely presents any other town worthy of notice.

MOUNTAINS.—The chains of mountains are numerous and extensive. To the W. of Moldavia and the Buckovina, for about 200 miles, runs part of the grand Carpathian chain, anciently called the Bastarnic Alps. The most southern branch of this grand chain, tending S. W. for more than 200 miles, forms the northern and western boundary of Walachia.

On the S. of the Danube appears Mount Hæmus. This chain is deservedly celebrated by the ancients, being of great elevation and extent, as appears from the numerous and large rivers which devolve from its sides. From the farthest point of Hæmus, at Emineh, to the S. of Servia, is a mountainous tract of more than 400 miles, the south-eastern branch of which may be the Rhodopè of the ancients. The western extremity divides into two extensive chains; one running N. W. between Dalmatia on the W. and Bosnia

Bosnia and Servia on the E. while the other passing S. forms the mountains of Albania and the W. of Greece. The southern chain has many classical appellations, as the Acroceraunian, Pindus, &c. The S. and E. of Greece are also crowded with small chains of mountains, and solitary hills; such as Olympus, Ossa, Pelius, &c. Mount Athos, a detached summit in the N. E. is of considerable height, but has chiefly attracted observation by its singular form, resembling that of Montserrat in Spain, and by the many churches and monasteries on its declivities.

RIVERS.—Among the rivers of Turkey in Europe, must first be named the Danube, which from Belgrade to Orsova, forms the northern boundary of Servia, for a space of nearly 100 miles, and afterwards becomes a Turkish stream for more than 400; being in some places a mile in breadth, and presenting, if possessed by an industrious people, all the advantages of an inland sea.

Next perhaps in importance, though very inferior, is the Maritz or ancient Hebrus, which rising in a chain of mountains anciently called Hæmus, and running to the E. and S. falls into the Egean sea, after a course of 250 miles. The same sea, at the gulph of Salonica, receives the Vardari, the ancient Axius, which rising in Mount Scardus, a western branch of Mount Hæmus, pursues a south-eastern course of about 200 miles.

Two other rivers of similar consequence, flow into the Danube. The Esker, the ancient Oeskus, which rises near the source of the Maritz, but its course little exceeds 120 miles; while the Morava, the ancient Margus, runs about 200. The Drin, another considerable river, rises to the N. of Albania, and falls into the Save.

Many

Many other streams pervade these regions; but these, and the lakes of Albania, and of the southern provinces, are rather of classical fame than ofgeographical importance.

Religion.—The religion of the Turks is the Mahometan, but it is probable, that two thirds of the inhabitants of this division of the empire, are Greek Christians. The Mufti, or mahometan Pontiff, presides at Constantinople, but his power has seldom interfered with the civil government. Next to him in rank are the moulahs, who, though esteemed dignitaries of the church, are in fact, doctors of the law, the Koran being a code of civil observance, as well as of religious institutions. From the moulahs are selected the inferior muftis, or judges, throughout the empire, and the cadilesquiers, or chief justices. The imaums, or parish priests, perform the service of the mosques, whilst the cadis are judges, annually appointed to administer justice in the towns and villages, and who direct their chief attention to the juridical part of the Koran. The Greeks, with their faith, retain their priests, bishops, archbishops, and patriarchs; but their church is in the lowest state of degradation, and its dignities are openly sold by the Turks.

Government.—The Turkish government is absolute; but the Sultan, though a despotic sovereign, is himself strictly subject to the laws of the Koran, which raise such obstructions to his will, that many christian sovereignties are more arbitrary.

ISLANDS

# ISLANDS

belonging to

# TURKEY IN EUROPE.

THE numerous islands in the Archipelago are onsidered as belonging to Europe, except a few vhich approach the Asiatic shore, as Mytelene, Scio, Samos, Cos, and Rhodes.

These islands constitute the classical isles of ncient Greece, the largest of which is CRETE or CANDIA, which is about 180 miles in length, and 0 in its greatest breadth. A chain of high ountains pervades a great part of its length. These are called the White mountains, from he snow with which they are covered. Candia s still renowned for its hundred cities, as the irth place of Jupiter, and as the seat of legisla-ure to all Greece. The famous Mount Ida, hich is situated in the middle of the island, is o better than a barren rock, and Lethè, the iver of oblivion, is a torpid stream.

Next is NEGROPONT, anciently called EUBŒA, bout 100 miles in length by 20 in breadth, a rge and important island.

The other isles are generally small, and were ivided by the ancients into separate groups, of which the CYCLADES were the most celebrated. These lie in a circle round DELOS, which is the chief of them, and said to have been the birth place of Apollo and Diana, the magnificent ruins of whose temples are still visible.

The SPORADES were a cluster approaching the Asiatic shore.

Other chief names are LEMNOS, remarkable for a mineral earth, from the sale of which the Turks derive a considerable revenue, SKYRO, and Andro.

In the year 1707, a new island, about a mile in diameter, arose with violent volcanic explosions, near Santorine.

CORFU, CEPHALONIA, and ZANTE, on the western side of Greece, now constitute an independent republic, under the protection of Russia.

# HOLLAND.

SITUATION and EXTENT.—The Seven United Provinces, usually denominated Holland, from the principal of them, lie opposite to Great Britain, at the distance of 30 leagues, on the eastern side of the German sea. These provinces extend from the N. of Groningen to the southern boundary along Austrian Flanders and Brabant, about 150 miles; and in breadth, from the North sea to the circle of Westphalia, about 100 miles.

DIVISIONS.—The United Provinces are, properly speaking, eight, viz. Holland, Overyssel, Zealand, Friesland, Utrecht, Groningen, Guelderland, and Zutphen; but the last two forming only one sovereignty, they are generally called the Seven United Provinces.

Besides these seven, there are three other considerable adjoining provinces belonging to the Dutch territory, all of which may be thus arranged: To the N. E. are situated those of Friesland

Friesland and Groningen, with the country of Drent. To the S. of these, and extending from the Zuyder Zee to the German frontier, are the provinces of Overyssel and Gelders. Along the Belgic frontier are Dutch Brabant, and Dutch Flanders The provinces of Zealand and Holland occupy the western coast; and the province of Utrecht, to the S. of the Zuyder Zee, is the only one, which in its whole circuit, contributes nothing to the boundaries of the state.

POPULATION.—The population of the United Provinces has lately been computed to be little more than two millions and a half, of which nearly one million is ascribed to the province of Holland.

CITIES and TOWNS.—Amsterdam, upon the small river Amstel, is the chief city of Holland. The haven is not distinguished by natural advantages, but has been improved and secured by art. The houses have the air of neatness peculiar to the Dutch, and some of those along the chief canals, display a uniform grandeur. The population is computed at 212,000.

Leyden is esteemed the next city in population, containing about 50,000 inhabitants. Here the ancient Rhine expires in several small channels, which are passed by so many bridges, that the number has been computed at more than one hundred. The fair is still much frequented.

Rotterdam has a noble quay, with many handsome houses, and the streets are of great length. In the market place stands the well known statue of Erasmus. The population is about 48,000.

Haarlem is fortified by old brick walls, and is supposed to contain 40,000 inhabitants. The great church is esteemed the largest in the pro-

vince of Holland; but the celebrated organ is more remarkable for power than sweetness.

The Hague is only esteemed a village, though the inhabitants are computed at 36,000. It is distinguished by its pleasant situation; and it is asserted, that the Hague contains more magnificent houses than occur in the like space in any city of northern Europe.

Middleburg, in Zealand, is supposed to contain 30,000 inhabitants. It has a large town house, decorated with the statues of the ancient earls and countesses of Holland, and was the seat of the provincial states.

Utrecht, Delft, Dort, and Groningen, are supposed to contain each about 20,000 inhabitants: and among the inferior cities may be named Maestricht, the most southern of the Dutch possessions, situated on the river Maese, 18 miles N. W. of Aix la Chapelle.

MOUNTAINS.—There is not the most distant semblance of mountains in this country; and even the few hills toward the E. may be more properly denominated little elevated tracts of sand.

RIVERS.—The chief rivers of the United Provinces are the Rhine and the Meuse; the latter having usurped the honors due to the Alpine river. The Leck and the Wahal must also be regarded as the estuaries of the Rhine, though after their junction they are commonly styled the Meuse. Strictly speaking, however, the Meuse now falls into the Rhine, on the eastern side of the isle of Bommel.

The principal river which falls into the Zuyder Zee, is the Yssel.

LAKES.—The lakes are of small extent, except that which is called the sea of Haarlem, on the N. of which is the Y, a broad piece of water

passing

passing by Amsterdam, more properly an arm of the sea.

UNIVERSITIES.—The universities are five; Leyden, Utrecht, Harderwyck, Franecker, and Groningen, with two inferior colleges at Amsterdam and Deventer. There is an academy of sciences at Haarlem.

RELIGION.—The protestant religion, in the Calvinistic form, prevails through the United Provinces; but every other profession of religion is tolerated. There are many Catholic churches, many Jews, &c.

GOVERNMENT.—These industrious provinces have been recently erected into a kingdom, and assigned by the French emperor to his brother Louis, in whom the government of the colonies is exclusively vested, while the general government of the kingdom is committed to four ministers of state. The legislative body consists of 38 members, chosen for five years, in the following proportion:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| For Holland | 17 | For Zealand | 2 |
| For Guelderland | 4 | For Groningen | 2 |
| For Brabant | 4 | For Utrecht | 2 |
| For Friesland | 3 | For Drent | 1 |
| For Overyssel | 3 | | |

# DENMARK.

EXTENT.—The kingdom of Denmark, including Norway, extends from the river Elbe in the S. to the northern extremity of Danish Lapland, a distance, exclusive of the entrance of the Baltic, of 1400 miles in length, by a medial breadth of

 only

only 150. Of this great length, Denmark occupies about 260 miles, while the remainder belongs to Norway.

BOUNDARIES.—To the S. the Danish province of Holstein borders on the wide territories of Germany; on the north, east, and west, Denmark is surrounded by the sea. The eastern limits of Norway are chiefly indicated by a long chain of mountains, passing between that country and Sweden.

DIVISIONS.—Denmark Proper consists of the peninsula of Jutland, and of eight principal islands at the entrance of the Baltic sea, viz. Zeeland, Funen, Langland, Laland, Falster, Mona, Femeren, and Alsen. The island of Zeeland is about 700 miles in circumference, and is a fertile and pleasant country; that of Funen is about 340, and is said to be as well cultivated as most of the counties in England. The whole territory subject to the crown of Denmark is divided into the following provinces:

| | *Provinces.* | | *Provinces* |
|---|---|---|---|
| Denmark Poper. | 1. Jutland. | Norway. | 6. Christiansand. |
| | 2. Isle of Funen. | | 7. Aggerhuus |
| | 3 Isle of Zeeland. | | 8. Bergen. |
| | 4. Sleswick. | | 9. Drontheim |
| | 5. Holstein. | | 10. Norland. |
| | | | 11. Finmark. |

12. Isle of Iceland. 13. Isles of Feroe.

POPULATION.—The population of these countries is computed at two millions and a half, of which only 700,000 are ascribed to Norway, and 50,000 to Iceland.

CHIEF CITIES.—Copenhagen, the capital of the kingdom, stands in a delightful situation, on the eastern shore of Zeeland. It is the best built city in the N. for though Petersburgh presents more superb edifices, Copenhagen is more uniform. This city was formerly an obscure port, but it is now regularly fortified; the circumference being between four and five miles, and the inhabitants about 90,000.

Next in dignity is Bergen, the capital of Norway. It is seated in the centre of a valley, forming a semicircle round a small gulph of the sea. On the land side it is defended by mountains, and on the other by fortifications. The population is computed at 19,000.

The third city of Denmark, and indeed the second in population, is Altona, on the Elbe, within gunshot of Hamburg, originally a village, but fostered by commerce to be a diminutive rival of Hamburg. It is supposed to contain 25,000 inhabitants.

Christiana, in the S. of Norway, stands in the midst of a fertile country, and is by some esteemed the capital, because it contains the chief court of justice, and is undoubtedly the most beautiful town in that kingdom; but the inhabitants are only about 10,000.

Drontheim, about 270 miles to the N. of Bergen, was anciently called Nidaros, from the river Nid, on which it is situated. It was the residence of the ancient kings of Norway, and afterwards an archbishopric, suppressed at the reformation. The inhabitants are computed only at 8000.

The other towns of Denmark, as Gluckstadt, Elsinore, Flensburg, Kiel, Arhus, &c. have only from 300 to 6000 inhabitants.

MOUNTAINS.

MOUNTAINS.—In the kingdom of Denmark Proper, there are no heights which can aspire to the name of mountains; but Norway is almost wholly an alpine country. The grand chain which divides that kingdom from Sweden, is known by distinct appellations as it passes through different provinces. The southern part, running nearly N. and S. and terminating at the province of Romsdal, is called Lang-fiall, or the Long mountains. Hence the part called Dofra-fiall extends towards the east, ending above the lake of Oresund; whence it again proceeds almost due N. and is called the chain of Kolen, extending between Norway and Swedish Lapland, and afterwards bending in the form of a horse shoe, on the S. of Finmark.

RIVERS.—There is scarcely a river of any consequence in Denmark Proper, except the Eydar, the ancient boundary between Denmark and Germany. Towards the N. of Jutland, an extensive creek of the sea called Lymfiord, penetrates from the Cattegat almost to the German sea: it is navigable, full of fish, and abounds with islands. There are several other creeks, which by the Danes are styled Fiords or Firths.

The chief river of Norway is the Glom or Glomen, which is full of cataracts and shoals, and consequently is not navigable; yet about 50,000 trees are annually floated upon it to Frederickstadt. It springs from the lake Oresund, and runs nearly S. about 300 miles. Next may be named the Dramme, which flows into the bay of Christiana, on the western side.

In Finmark the most considerable river is the Tana, which is followed by the Alten, both rising in the mountains to the N. of Swedish Lapland, and flowing into the Arctic ocean.

LAKES—The lakes are numerous. The most extensive are in the S. of Norway. Lake Mioss is about 60 miles in length, but the breadth in general is not considerable, except towards the centre, where it is from 12 to 18 miles. It contains an island about 10 miles in circumference, fertile in corn, pasture, and wood. Next is the lake of Rands, or Rands-Sion, which is nearly 50 miles in length, but not more than two in breadth. The lake of Tyri is a beautiful piece of water, about 15 miles in length and breadth, diversified with many bays and creeks. Further N. is the lake of Fœmund, about 35 miles in length, by eight at its greatest breadth. This lake is surrounded by mountains of great height.

UNIVERSITIES.—The universities are at Copenhagen and Kiel, and there is a respectable institution at Drontheim, styled the royal society of sciences.

RELIGION.—The religion of Norway and Denmark is the Lutheran. There is no Archbishop, but the bishoprics are twelve; six in Denmark, four in Norway, and two in Iceland.

GOVERNMENT.—Since the revolution of 1660, the Danish government has been an absolute monarchy.

## DANISH ISLES.

THE isles of Zealand, Funen, &c. have been already mentioned as the chief seat of the Danish monarchy. In the E. the furthest isle belonging to Denmark is BORNHOLM, a small but fertile spot. There are several isles off the coast of Jutland; and that of Norway presents one continued

tinued series of small and unimportant islands, most of them indeed uninhabited. Those of LOFFODEN, the most numerous and extensive, are noted for the whirlpool of Malstrom. The bottom is full of craggy spires, and the noise is tremendous. On the S. of the FERROE ISLES there is another dreadful whirlpool. These islands are also subject to the crown of Denmark. They are 17 in number, situated about midway between the coast of Norway and Iceland, and are not unfertile, producing some barley, and affording abundant pasturage for sheep. The inhabitants do not exceed 5000.

The large and celebrated island of ICELAND may be regarded as 260 miles in length, from the most western cape to the most eastern; and about 200 in breadth from N. to S. but the inhabitants do no not exceed 50,000. The chief towns are Skalholt and Hoolum. The highest mountains, clothed with perpetual snow, are called Yokuls; and of these, Snæfial, hanging over the sea in the south-western part of the island, is of the greatest elevation, being computed at 6860 feet.

The volcanoes of Iceland may also be classed among the grandest features of nature. Of these, Mount Heckla is the most important. It is situated in the southern part of the island, about 20 miles from the sea, above which it rises nearly a mile in height. The summit is covered with snow, except some spots where the heat predominates. The boiling springs of Iceland are also remarkable: that of Geyser, to the N. of Skalholt, is the most singular, rising from an opening 19 feet in diameter, and ascending at intervals to the height of 50 or even 90 feet.

The chief rivers of Iceland are in the E. all flowing from N. to S. Some are white with lime, and others smell of sulphur.

The

The only religion which is tolerated in Iceland, is the Lutheran. The ecclesiastical authority is vested in two bishops. The churches on the eastern, the southern, and the western part of the island, are in the jurisdiction of the Bishop of Skalholt; and those of the northern quarter are subject to the Bishop of Hoolum.

# SWEDEN.

EXTENT.—The kingdom of Sweden is of very considerable extent, stretching from the southernmost promontory of Scone, to the northern extremity of Swedish Lapland, not less than 1150 miles in length, and from the Norwegian Alps to the limits of Russia, about 600 in breadth.

DIVISIONS.—The following are the general divisions of this country, each of which contains several extensive provinces; 1. Sweden Proper. 2. Gothland. 3. West Norland. 4. Swedish Lapland. 5. East Bothnia. 6. Finland. 7. Swedish Pomerania, in Upper Saxony, S. of the Baltic.

POPULATION.—The population of these countries exceeds three millions, of which more than 100,000 is to be ascribed to Pomerania.

CITIES and TOWNS.—Stockholm, the capital of Sweden, stands in a singular situation, between a creek or inlet of the Baltic sea, and lake Mæler. It occupies seven small rocky islands, and the scenery is truly singular and romantic. The inhabitants are estimated at 80,000.

Next in dignity is Upsal, the only archbishopric, and formerly esteemed the chief city in the kingdom, but at present the inhabitants do not exceed 3000.

Gothenburg, in the province of W. Gothland, has a population of 20,000, and the circumference is computed to be nearly three miles. Besides having considerable commerce, it is greatly enriched by the herring fishery.

Carlskrona, founded by Charles XI. in 1680, and Stralsund, in Swedish Pomerania, are each supposed to contain 11,000 inhabitants. Abo, in Finland, is computed at more than 8,500, in whi h it is nearly rivalled by Nordkioping. Fahlun is the next in population, and is followed by Wismar, another town possessed by Sweden, on the northern shore of Germany.

MOUNTAINS.—The chief mountains of Sweden are in that elevated chain, which divides Sweden and Swedish Lapland from Norway. The centre, as in the Alps and Pyrenees, seems to present the chief elevation, whence the mountains decline in height towards Lapland.

RIVERS.—Sweden is intersected by numerous rivers, the largest of which, in the native language, are called Elbs or Elfs. The most considerable flow from the lakes, without any great length of course, as the Gotha, the only outlet of the vast lake of Wener, but impeded by many rocks and cataracts; and the Motala, which is the outlet of the lake Weter, passing by Nordkioping. Farther north, and the most important, s the Dahl, formed by two streams, which rise in the Norwegian Alps, and give name to the province of Dalecarlia. After a course of about 260 miles, it falls into the Bothnic gulph, presenting, not far from its mouth, a celebrated cataract, the breadth of the river being nearly a quarter of a mile,

mile, and the perpendicular height of the fall between 30 and 40 feet.

The chief of the Laplandic streams is the Tornea, which springs from a lake of the same name, and joins the northern extremity of the Bothnic gulph, after a course of about 300 miles.

Finland also is sprinkled with numerous lakes, which give rise to considerable streams, but of a short course; as the Ulea, the Cano, which passes Biormborg; and the Kymmen, flowing into the centre of the gulph of Finland.

LAKES.—Of the lakes, the most important is the Wener, which is about 100 miles in length, by 50 in breadth, almost surrounded with rocks and forests. It receives 24 rivers, abounds with fish, and contains many romantic isles. Next is the Weter, a lake of equal length, but inferior in breadth, which seldom exceeds twenty miles. This lake is surrounded with mountains, and is particularly subject to storms. It is clear though deep, and while it receives about forty small rivers, has no outlet except the Motala. The lake Mæler, upon which stands the capital, is about 60 miles in length by 18 in breadth, and is sprinkled with picturesque isles.

In the N. of Sweden, the most considerable lake is that of Stor, in the province of Jemtland. That of Enara in Lapland, is about 70 miles in length, by 30 in its greatest breadth. After this may be named the Tornea, and others. The lake and mountains of Niemi, and the river Tengilo, which falls into the Tornea, have been celebrated for their picturesque beauty.

The most considerable lake of Finland is that of Pejend or Pejana, about 80 miles in length, by 15 in breadth, which is the source of the river Kymmen. The lake of Saima to the E. is larger, but is chiefly within the Russian dominions. This

lake, with its various creeks and communications, may be estimated at 160 miles in length, by 25 at its greatest breadth, and flows into Ladoga, by the great and noisy current of Woxen, which forms a vast cataract about a mile from its mouth.

UNIVERSITIES.—Of the universities, the most ancient and celebrated is that of Upsal; there is another at Lunden; and a third at Abo, in Finland, frequented even by students from Russia. There are besides, twelve literary academies, most of which publish memoirs of their transactions.

RELIGION.—The religion of Sweden is the Lutheran, and this kingdom has retained an Archbishopric, with thirteen prelacies.

GOVERNMENT.—The government is an absolute monarchy, for the diet cannot deliberate on any subject, till it be proposed by the sovereign; yet as it is a large and respectable body, consisting of nobles and landed gentlemen, burgesses, &c. it constitutes a formidable barrier against the despotism of the crown.

## POMERANIA, AND THE SWEDISH ISLES.

SWEDISH POMERANIA is a distinct province on the southern side of the Baltic, and contains above 100,000 inhabitants. The governor resides at Stralsund, where there is a court of justice for military affairs. There is also a royal court of justice at Griefswald; but the supreme tribunal is at Wismar. Stralsund, the chief town, is surrounded by water, and maintains a considerable trade; and Griefswald is the seat of a university.

Sweden

Sweden possesses many islands scattered in the Baltic sea, and in the gulph of Bothnia.* RUGEN, the most southerly, affords, as it were, a passage to the Swedish possessions in Pomerania. This isle is very productive in various kinds of grain, which are transported to Stralsund. Bergen is the chief town, and the isle is divided into seven parishes.

Farther to the north-east, is the long island of OLAND or OELAND, in length about 70 miles, and about six in breadth. In the N. are many fine forests, while the southern part is more level and fertile. The inhabitants are computed at nearly 8000.

Next occurs the island of GOTHLAND, celebrated for the travels of Linnæus, about 70 miles in length, and 24 in breadth. It is a fertile district, and has an excellent breed of sheep.

The isles of ALAND mark the entrance of the Bothnic gulph, deriving their name from the largest, which is about 40 miles in length, and 15 in breadth, containing about 9000 inhabitants, who speak the Swedish language, though included in the government of Finland.

# PORTUGAL.

BOUNDARIES and EXTENT.—Portugal is bounded by the provinces of Spain on the N. and E. and by the Atlantic ocean on the S. and W. being the most westerly kingdom on the continent of Europe. It extends about 360 miles in length, by 120 in breadth. The ancient name of this country was Lusitania; but the boundaries do not exactly correspond.

POPULATION.—The population, according to a modern traveller, amounts to two millions and a half.

DIVISIONS.—Portugal is divided into six provinces. 1. Entre Douro-e-Minho. 2. Tras-os-Montes. 3. Beira. 4. Estremadura. 5. Alentejo. 6. Algarve. The first two are in the north of the kingdom, the next in the middle, and the last in the south. The first province derives its name from its situation between the rivers Douro and Minho, and is very fertile and populous. The second is mountainous, as the name imports. Beira is a large and fertile province, and is rivalled in soil by Estremadura. Alentejo is defective in population, having been most exposed to the attacks of the Spaniards. Algarve is a very small division, but has the honor of forming an addition to the royal titles.

CITIES and TOWNS.—Lisbon, the capital city, is nobly situated on the N. side of the mouth of the Tajo, and is sheltered on the N. W. by a ridge of hills. The haven is capacious and excellent. The population is computed at about 200,000. The earthquake of 1755, a dreadful and memorable epoch among the inhabitants, has contributed to the improvement of the city, the new streets being broad and well paved, resembling those in the west end of London.

The next considerable town is Oporto, situated on the N. side of the Douro, about five miles from the sea, upon the declivity of a hill, so that the houses rise like an amphitheatre. The population is about 30,000.

Setuval, or St. Ubes, is a considerable town, with about 12,000 inhabitants, and a prosperous commerce.

Braga, though inland, is another considerable town, in the province of Estremadura.

In

In Tras-os-Montes are the towns of Miranda and Braganza, the last of which conferred the ducal title on the present reigning family.

In the province of Beira, is the venerable city of Coimbra, with its ancient university. Alentejo contains the city of Ivora. The principal town of Algarve is Tavora. Its inhabitants do not exceed 5000.

MOUNTAINS.—The mountains of this country are chiefly terminations of the Spanish chains. Those in the N. E. seem an unconnected cluster, but those in the province of Alentejo, running between the city of Ivora and the town of Estramas, may be regarded as belonging to the chain of Toledo.

RIVERS.—The rivers of Portugal have their source in Spain. The Tajo is here a noble stream, and its estuary near Lisbon affords a capacious haven, from two to nine miles in breadth.

LAKES.—Scarcely a lake can be traced in the map of Portugal.

RELIGION.—The religion of Portugal is the Roman Catholic; and a strict observance of its duties forms one of the national characteristics. There are two Archbishoprics, and ten Episcopal sees, besides a Patriarch.

GOVERNMENT.—The constitution of Portugal is an absolute and hereditary monarchy; but the fate of this kingdom is now in suspence: the reigning king having fled to his dominions in S. America, with a design of establishing his court in the Brazils. Though a regency is appointed in Portugal, it is not improbable that this kingdom will become tributary to France.

# SWITZERLAND.

BOUNDARIES.—The boundaries of Switzerland are rather arbitrary than natural; though on the W. mount Jura forms a grand division from France; and on the south, the Pennine Alps, a partial barrier from Italy. On the E. lies the country of Tyrol, and on the N. is the newly erected kingdom of Suabia, containing the small canton of Schaffhausen, as it were an excrescence of Switzerland, on the northern side of the Rhine.

EXTENT.—Switzerland extends about 200 miles in length, from E. to W. and about 130 in breadth, from N. to S. but the greater part is lost to human industry, consisting of vast rocks, partly covered with perpetual ice and snow.

POPULATION.—The population is estimated at two millions.

DIVISIONS.—The Swiss league, before the French invasion, consisted of thirteen independent, confederated cantons, and their subjects and allies; but the constitution dictated in February 1803, includes nineteen cantons, according to the following arrangement:

| *Situation.* | *Cantons.* | *Situation.* | *Cantons.* |
|---|---|---|---|
| On the North. | Schaffhausen.<br>Basel.<br>Soleure.<br>Argovia.<br>Zurich.<br>Thurgovia.<br>Appenzel. | In the Centre. | Lucerne.<br>Underwald.<br>Uri.<br>Glaris.<br>Schweitz.<br>Zug. |
| On the South and East. | Tessin.<br>Grisons.<br>St. Gall. | On the West. | Vaud.<br>Friburg.<br>Berne. |

CITIES

CITIES and TOWNS.—According to the comparative standard of population, the city of Basel, or according to the French enunciation, Basle, deserves the first attention, being supposed to contain 14,000 inhabitants. This venerable city stands in a pleasant situation on the banks of the Rhine, which is here broad, deep, and rapid, suddenly turning to its long northern course, after a previous western direction. The cathedral is an ancient Gothic edifice, and contains the tomb of the great Erasmus.

Berne is the next in rank, having a population of about 13,000. It is almost surrounded by the river Aar. The city is singularly neat and beautiful, and the adjacent country is rich and fertile.

Zurich, the third, is situated on a large lake, amidst a populous and fertile country.

Lausanne contains about 9000 inhabitants, and is deservedly celebrated for the beauty of its situation.

The other chief towns are St. Gall, Mulhausen, and Geneva, a city containing 25,000 inhabitants, which is now assigned to France. Friburg and Schaffhausen contain each about 6000 inhabitants; Lucerne, Soluthurn, and Einsiedlin, about 5000 each. Few of the rest exceed 3000.

MOUNTAINS.—The mountains of Switzerland are the most celebrated in Europe, and in height are supposed to yield to none, except those of S. America. In a general point of view, the Alps extend in a kind of semicircular form, from the gulph of Genoa through Switzerland, which contains their central and highest parts, and terminate in the Carnic Alps, on the N. of the Adriatic sea. The extent of this vast course of mountains may be computed at about 550 miles. The central part of this magnificent chain may be considered as divided into two ridges, running almost

almost parallel from the S. W. to the N. E. The first ridge is that of the Helvetian Alps, of which the most conspicuous summits are the Jungfrau, or Virgin horn, the Eiger, the tremendous Schreckhorn, or peak of terror, the Grimsel, the Furca, the extensive and devious ridges of St. Gothard, the Badur, and the glaciers, to the N. of the farther Rhine.

The southern chain of the central Alps, rather belongs to the north of Italy than to Switzerland. It extends from Mount Blanc and some eminences farther to the W. and embraces the great St. Bernard, the Weiseh, Mount Cervin, and Mount Rosa. Passing to the N. of the lakes of Locarno and Como, it stretches into Tyrol, terminating in the Brunner or Rhætian Alps, on the S. of the Inn. Mount Blanc, the greatest elevation on the ancient continent, is calculated to be 14,700 feet, nearly three miles above the level of the sea; to which Mount Rosa, situated about mid-way between great St. Bernard and the lake of Locarno, yields only 60 feet in height.

Rivers.—The rivers of Switzerland are numerous; and the sources of the Rhine and of the Rhone, two of the most important streams in Europe, must be classed among the most sublime scenes of this country. If the length of their course through the Swiss dominions be estimated, the Rhine is the most considerable; and is followed by the Aar, the Reuss, the Limmat, the Rhone, and the Thur.

The Rhine arises in the country of the Grisons, from a glacier on the summit of mount Bedus or Badur, at the head of a valley about nine leagues in length, called the Rhinewald: the middle Rhine proceeds from the valley of Medelo, an appendage of St. Gothard, and these two torrents united receive a third from Mount

Avicula,

Avicula, called the Upper Rhine. From its source the Rhine pervades or borders Switzerland for about the space of 200 miles, running N. E. to the lake of Constance, whence it bends W. to Basel, and there begins its long northern course.

The Aar rises in the Alp called Grimsel, or rather in the environs of that terrible summit called the Schreckhorn, bending its course to the N. W. till it arrives near Arberg; it afterwards turns N. E. receives the Reuss and the Limmat, and joins the Rhine opposite to Waldshut, after a circuit of 150 miles.

The Reuss, which divides Switzerland into two almost equal parts, the eastern and the western, springs from the lake of Lucendro, on the N. W. of St. Gothard. From the other side rises the Tessino, an Italian stream, which flows into the Po; not far below Pavia. The Reuss joins the Aar, after a course of about 80 miles.

The Limmat is composed of two streams, the Linth and the Mat. About 10 miles after their junction, the Limmat enters the lake of Zurich, whence it flows about 20 miles to join the Aar.

The Rhone can only be regarded as a Swiss river, prior to its entering the lake of Geneva, after a course of about 90 miles, through the extensive country called the Vallais.

The Thur, a moderate current, rises in the S. of the country of Tokenberg, and pursues a northwestern direction to the Rhine.

Lakes.—The lakes of Switzerland are numerous and interesting. The most considerable are those of Constance, on the N. E. and Geneva on the S. W. The former is about 45 miles in length, and in some places 15 in breadth. Like all the lakes of Switzerland, it is deeper in the summer than in the winter, owing to the melting

of

of the snows. The lake of Geneva extends in the form of a crescent, about 40 miles in length, and nine at its greatest breadth.

Only a part of the lake Maggiore, or that of Locarno, is subject to Switzerland; but the lake of Lugano forms an extensive body of water in that neighbourhood.

The lakes of Neufchatel and Zurich are each about 25 miles in length, by about four in breadth. That of Lucerne is about 15 in length, and the breadth not above three.

Next to these are the lakes of Thun and Brientz, to which others of inferior note might be added.

Religion.—The religion of some of the Swiss Cantons is the Roman Catholic, of others the Reformed. In general the two persuasions live in the most amiable amity and moderation.

Government.—The government of Switzerland in some of the most powerful Cantons, formerly retained much of the feudal aristocracy; other Cantons were more democratical; but the recent subversion of the government by the French, has for some time reduced Switzerland to a dependent province, with new divisions and arrangements. At present, each of the cantons sends a deputy to the diet; but those of Bern, Zurich, Vaud, St. Gall, Argovia, and the Grisons, have each two votes, on account of their superior population. The Landaman is president of the diet, which assembles yearly in the month of June. Each of the cantons retains its own laws, and has a great and little council.

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The Valais now forms a little independent republic, watered by the Rhone, about 85 miles in length, and containing about 90,000 inhabitants. The chief town is Sion, formerly the seat of a bishop.

ITALY.

# ITALY.

Divisions.—Italy has in all ages been divided into three parts, the northern, the southern, and the central. In the present unsettled state of the continent, the political divisions of the Italian states are uncertain; but the northern part of the country is geographically divided by the Po, up to its source, near Castiglione; and thence in a westerly line to the gulph of Spezia, almost the eastern reach of the Genoese territory. The southern division comprises the kingdom of Naples and Sicily, being divided from the central part only by an arbitrary line.

Boundaries.—The boundaries of this classical and interesting country are deeply impressed by the hand of nature, in the Adriatic and Mediterranean seas, and the grand chain of the Alps, which divides it from France, Switzerland, and Germany.

Extent.—The extent of Italy from Mount Rosa, the highest summit of the Italian Alps, to the Cape de Leuca, is about 670 miles in length, and the medial breadth from the Adriatic shores to those of the Mediterranean, is about 100; but from the recent limits of the Austrian power, to the eastern frontiers of the French departments of Leman and Mount Blanc, formerly Savoy, is more than 200 miles.

Population.—The present population of Italy is estimated at thirteen millions. The kingdom of Naples and Sicily contains about six millions; the central part three; and the northern four.

The

*The Northern Part of Italy.*

This largest division of Italy formerly comprised the extensive territories subject to Venice, and the king of Sardinia; Milan and Mantua; the principalities of Parma, and Modena; and the long mountainous strip belonging to the Genoese. Part of Piedmont and Savoy, the county of Nice, and the small principality of Monaco, have been added to France; and the whole of the remaining territory of Italy is now raised to the dignity of a kingdom, under the government of prince Joseph, the brother of the French emperor, the capital of which is Venice. The northern part, therefore, is now about 200 miles in length, from Carniola to Piedmont, and about 120 in breadth, from the gulph of Genoa to the frontiers of Switzerland.

PROVINCES and CHIEF TOWNS.—The most extensive province of this division is Piedmont, about 150 miles in length, by 100 in medial breadth. This principality was part of the ancient kingdom of Lombardy, and formed a portion of the gradual acquisitions of the Counts, afterwards, Dukes of Savoy, and latterly Kings of Sardinia. This delightful province enjoys a mild and pure air, and distinguished fertility of soil; the plains producing wheat, maize, rice, &c. and the pastures abounding with cattle.

The chief city is Turin, supposed to contain more than 80,000 inhabitants. Vercelli is said to contain 20,000; and Alessandria 12,000. A little to the E. of this last is Marengo, noted for the victory of Bonaparte over the Austrians.

Next in position, and now in consequence, is the fertile duchy of Milan. The capital of the same name, is supposed to contain 120,000 inhabitants. At Pavia is a university of great repute, the professors

fessors having distinguished themselves in natural history. It is regarded as the first in Italy.

The ancient and remarkable city of Venice is singularly situated in the shallows of the Adriatic: built upon some low islets, it appears to float upon the bosom of the waters, secured in a great measure from the fury of the waves by exterior shoals, which form a natural fortification on that side. Its wealth and commerce, which have long been on the decline, will probably revive under the auspices of France.

Mantua, the capital of the duchy of the same name, stands on a lake formed by the Mincio, and was formerly supposed to contain 50,000 inhabitants, now reduced to about 12,000. The position and fortifications render it a place of great strength.

The territories of Parma and Placentia have been conjoined for many ages. The population is computed at 300,000. Parma is a considerable city, with some manufactures, and an academy of painting. Both Parma and Placentia have universities. The Parmesan cheese, now made at Lodi, in the Milanese, has been celebrated for many centuries.

The duchy of Modena contains about 300,000 inhabitants, and the city about 30,000. It is remarkable, that in digging wells near Modena, at a certain depth, the water gushes up as from a subterraneous river. About 10 miles to the S. of this capital, there is an aperture called La Salza, whence, particularly in spring and autumn, ascend smoke, flame, ashes, and stones, with a strong smell of sulphur. Carrara, in the S. of this duchy, affords the celebrated marble used in statuary.

Genoa, the only remaining territory, which merits description, consists of a long mountainous

tract, formerly noted for the acuteness and treachery of the Ligurians, its inhabitants. It is enclosed by the Apennines, which in some parts are covered with forests, in others they are barren rocks, whilst a few places afford excellent pasturage. The population of this territory is computed at 400,000; of the city, at 80,000. The air is pure and salubrious, and the fruits and vegetables are excellent, but the grain is not sufficient for the consumption. The manufactures are chiefly silk and velvet.

## *The Central Part of Italy.*

This division comprehends the dominions of the Church; the grand duchy of Tuscany, now raised to a kingdom under the protection of France, and assigned to a prince of Spain; the diminutive states of Lucca; St. Marino; the principality of Piombino, &c.

The territory belonging to the Pope, till lately extended from the Po beyond Terracina, but is now considerably abridged, and even the capital has been recently seized by the French. Rome is supposed to contain above 160,000 inhabitants; Bologna, famous for an ancient university, 80,000; and Ancona, 20,000. The papal power, once so extensive and imperious, seems now to be supported only by the influence of Austria.

Tuscany has long been celebrated for the arts, and Florence is regarded as the Athens of modern Italy. This principality is about 120 miles in length, by 90 in breadth. It is one of the most healthful and fertile regions of Italy, abounding in corn, cattle, excellent wines, and fruits. Florence contains about 80,000 inhabitants, and Livorno, corrupted by our mariners to Leghorn, 45,000; the latter is a celebrated port, and has

supplanted

supplanted the maritime city of Pisa, now reduced to a population of about 20,000.

The small republic of Lucca is supposed to contain 120,000 people, of which Lucca holds about 40,000. The inhabitants are esteemed the most industrious people of Italy. No spot of ground is neglected. The hills are covered with vines, olives, chesnut and mulberry trees, and the meadows near the coast abound with cattle.

The diminutive but celebrated republic of St. Marino, owes its name to a hermit of the fifth century. It is surrounded by the dominions of the Pope, and claims his protection. The inhabitants of the village and mountain are computed at 5000.

The principality of Piombino, consists of a small portion of the Italian shore, and the opposite isle of Elba. The town of the same name is small and neglected, the princes having generally resided at Rome. The isle of Elba, the ancient Ilva, is about nine miles in length, and three in breadth; and has been remarkable from early antiquity for its metallic productions, particularly beautiful ores of iron. This isle produces excellent wine, some oil, and flax; but cannot boast much fertility in grain.

## *The Southern Part of Italy.*

This division comprises the kingdom of Naples and Sicily, divided from the central part chiefly by an arbitrary line. The continental part exceeds 300 miles in length, by 100 in medial breadth. The island is about 170 miles in length, by 70 of medial breadth. The population of the whole kingdom is estimated at six millions.

The chief city is Naples, esteemed, next to Constantinople, the most beautiful capital in the world. The inhabitants are computed at 380,000.

Palermo, in Sicily, is supposed to contain 130,000. Messina was nearly destroyed by an earthquake, in 1783; but Bari is said to contain 30,000 inhabitants; and Catanea 26,000. This kingdom abounds in cattle, besides excellent wines, olives, oranges, rice, and flax; and some parts are celebrated for the produce of manna and saffron.

MOUNTAINS.—The most important mountains of Italy are the Alps, already described under the account of Switzerland. In general, the western Alps rise in successive elevations from the sea to mount Blanc, the ancient boundary of Savoy: from thence bending N. E. this grand chain presents the high summits of St. Bernard, &c. extending to mount Rosa, and from thence in the same direction, through the country of the Grisons to the glaciers of Tyrol, and terminating in the Salzian Alps.

The next grand chain is that of the Apennines, which are at first a branch of the Alps, separating the plains of Piedmont from the sea. They begin near Ormea, in that high ridge, which now forms the boundary of the French department of the maritime Alps, and stretch, without any interruption, along both sides of the gulph of Genoa, at no great distance from the sea; affording sources to many rivers, which flow to the N. and to the E. In the S. of the former territory of Modena, they proceed almost due E. to the centre of Italy, where they afford sources to the Arno, and the Tiber, and there pass S. E. to the extremities of Italy, generally approaching nearer to the Adriatic than to the Mediterranean sea. The noted Mount Gargano is, as it were, a spur of the Apennines to the N. of the gulph of Manfredonia.

The volcanoes occur only in the southern division. Vesuvius is a conic, detached mountain,

about

about 3600 feet high. The terrors of an eruption far exceed the utmost energy of description; nor can the imagination equal the dreadful reality of the subterraneous thunder, amidst the flashes of native lightning, the thickening smoke, the stony showers, and the eruption of burning lava, which descends in a horrid and copious stream of destruction, along the sides of the mountain. Yet Vesuvius placed by the side of Etna, would seem a small ejected hill, the whole circuit of its base not exceeding 30 miles, while Etna covers a space of 180, and rises to the computed height of 11,000 feet above the sea. This enormous mass is surrounded by smaller mountains, some of which equal Vesuvius in size; and while the lava of the latter may devolve its stream for seven miles, that of Etna will afford a liquid fire for thirty miles in length. The crater of Vesuvius never exceeds half a mile in circumference, while that of Etna is commonly three and sometimes six miles. The islands of Lipari, to the N. of Sicily, also contain many volcanoes, of which Stromboli is the chief. This crater is distinguished from any other by the constant, momentary eruption of showers of stones, which from its position in the side of the hill, are confined, and relapse into the volcano, thus supplying endless materials.

The natural curiosities of these regions are numerous and interesting. About six miles from Gergenti, and very remote from Etna, is a singular volcano, which in 1777, darted forth a high column of potter's earth, of which there are continual ebullitions from about sixty small apertures.

Scylla and Charybdis, of classical fame, are deserving of attention, though no longer invested with inevitable dangers. The former is a lofty

rock on the Calabrian shore, with several caverns at the bottom, which, by the agitation of the waves, emit sounds resembling the barking of dogs. The only danger is when the current and the winds are in opposition, so that vessels are impelled towards the rock. Charybdis is not a whirlpool, but a spot where the waves are greatly agitated by pointed rocks, and the depth does not exceed 500 feet.

RIVERS.—Italy is intersected with rivers in almost every direction, of which the Po is by far the largest and most extensive. This noble river, called by the ancients Padus and Eridanus, rises on the very confines of France and Italy, nearly in the parallel of mount Dauphin, in Dauphiné, and Saluzzo, in Piedmont, at the distance of about 18 miles from each. Thus descending from the centre of the western Alps, the Po passes to the N. E. of Saluzzo, by Carignan, to Turin; receiving even in this short space, many rivers from the S. and from the N. some of which, as the Maira, having a longer course than the Po, might perhaps be more justly regarded as the principal river. After leaving the walls of Turin, the Po receives innumerable rivulets from the Alps in the N. and the Apennines in the S. Among the former may be named the Doria, the Tessino, the Adda, the Oglio, and the Mincio: to the E. of which the Adige, an independent stream, descends from the Alps of Tyrol, and refusing to blend his waters with the Po, pursues his course to the gulph of Venice. From the S. the Po first receives the copious alpine river Tanaro, itself swelled by other streams; to which may be added the Trebbia, the river of Parma, and the Panaro, which joins the Po at Stellato. The course of the Po may be estimated at 300 miles. It is remarkable, that from Cremona to the

the sea, there is no capital city founded on the main stream of the Po.

The other rivers of the north of Italy, are the Adige, the Brenta, the Piavi, and the Tagliamento.

In the centre first appears the Arno, which rises in the Apennines, and flows by Florence and Pisa, into the gulph of Genoa. The Tiber, an immortal stream, is by far the most considerable in the middle or south of Italy, rising near the source of the Arno, S. E. of St. Marino, and passing by Perugia and Rome, joins the Mediterranean, after a course of about 150 miles. The other rivers of this division of Italy, though numerous, and many of them celebrated in Roman history, are now undistinguished, and unworthy of notice in a general view of the country.

LAKES.—Italy contains many beautiful lakes, particularly in the northern division. The Lago Maggiore, or the lake of Locarno, is about 27 miles in length, by three in breadth, and the shores abound with Alpine beauties. Lugano, on the east, formerly adjoined to the Milanese territory, and contains the beautiful Boromean isles, celebrated by many travellers. Still farther to the east, is the lake of Como, which is joined by that of Lecco: the lake of Como is about 32 miles in length, and two and a half in breadth. Yet farther to the east is the noble lake of Garda, an expanse of about 30 miles in length, and eight in breadth. In the central part of Italy, the largest lakes are those of Perugia, and Bolsena. In the Neapolitan part is the lake of Celano, in the north; and that of Varano, near mount Gargano.

RELIGION.—Though the religion of the country be the Roman Catholic, the inquisition has been carefully excluded, even under the reign of its

Pontiffs;

Pontiffs; and by the recent establishment of the kingdom, under the direction of the French emperor, every form of religion will be equally protected.

GOVERNMENT.—Italy now forms one of those dependent kingdoms, which the French emperor has erected around his own, as barriers against the inroads of other powers; and accordingly its government is regulated and modified by the will of the conqueror. In appointing his brother to the throne of Italy, the succession is decreed to his family, with the express condition, that no interference with the supreme authority and distinct powers of the emperor, as king of Italy, or with the succession to the throne of France, be attempted. The authority of the Pope as a temporal prince, can scarcely be said to exist, and the repeated encroachments which are made upon the territories of the church, leave nothing but the name of a sovereign to the once venerated representative of pontifical supremacy.

## ITALIAN ISLES.

THE island of SICILY has been described in connection with the kingdom of Naples: of the remaining isles, Sardinia and Corsica are the principal.

The former of these is the only part of his dominions which now remains to the king of SARDINIA. The island seems capable of great improvement, but the lands which belong to the community, are utterly neglected, and left, as it were, in a state of nature. The number of inhabitants is about 450,000.

The

The two chief rivers of Sardinia are the Oristano, running about 80 miles, and the Flumendoso, passing in opposite directions E. and W. and dividing the island into two portions.

The mountains run N. and S. the highest of which have their summits generally covered with snow.

The religion is the Roman Catholic, and it is singular, that with six bishoprics, there are three archbishoprics.

The island of CORSICA is now annexed to France, but in strict geography belongs to Italy. The most remarkable mountains are situated in the centre of the great chain, which traverses the island from N. to S. On Monte Rotondo, the highest of them, are two small lakes, the depth of which is unknown.

Beautiful marble is brought from the environs of Corte, and near the village of Moltifao, there are signs of copper and lead mines.

The isles of LIPARI, between Naples and the island of Sicily, have been already mentioned as volcanic, and contain many natural curiosities.

Others in the neighbourhood are less deserving of notice; but the isles of MALTA and GOZO are of considerable consequence. They are rocky and barren, not producing grain sufficient for half the consumption of their population; but, in the hands of the English, may prove a valuable acquisition. Malta is about 50 miles in circumference. Gozo is about half the extent, but more fertile.

## VENETIAN DALMATIA.—RAGUSA.

THE Dalmatian provinces are independent of Turkey, though situated on the eastern side of the Adriatic; and even the republic of Ragusa bears the name and form of an Italian state. The inhabitants of Dalmatia are computed at 60,000. The chief town is Zara, the ancient Jadera, one of the strongest places in Dalmatia, being surrounded by the sea, except on the E. where it is fortified. It was formerly the residence of the governor, and is an archbishopric. Arauna, situated on the lake of the same name, is also a delightful town of this country; and there are several other towns, well fortified, which have been repeatedly in the hands of the Turks.

Detached from these provinces, and at a considerable distance towards the S. in the province of Herzgovina, the Venetians possessed Castel Nuovo, once the capital of the duchy, and one of the most important fortified places in Dalmatia.

Cattaro is surrounded with mountains, which almost exclude the view of the sun. It is tolerably fortified, with a strong castle on an eminence. These districts are detached from the former by the territories of Ragusa.

The government of this little republic is an aristocracy. The chief magistrate, who is called the rector, is changed every month. There are two councils and a senate, which directs all state affairs. Jealous of their neighbours, the citizens of Ragusa only permit the gates to be opened a few hours in the day. It is a well built city, and the commerce not inconsiderable. The harbour might be rendered capable of a firm defence; and the circumjacent isles are beautified by nature and art.

## GERMANY.

# GERMANY.

EXTENT.—The geography of Germany is singularly perplexed, the great divisions or *circles*, being now interwoven and almost antiquated, while no modern and more rational distribution has yet appeared. Considered in its present limits, Germany extends about 600 miles in length, from the isle of Rugen, in the N. to the southern limits of the circle of Austria: the breadth, from the Rhine to the eastern boundary of Silesia, is about 500 miles: anciently the breadth extended beyond the Vistula, about 200 miles further to the east.

POPULATION.—The population in general is computed at little more than twenty-five millions.

DIVISIONS.—Many of the eastern provinces of Germany are contained in the description of the Austrian and Prussian dominions. The remaining or western part, is naturally divided into two portions by the river Mayn.

*German States on the North of the Mayn.*

The chief states on the N. of the Mayn are Saxony, Brunswick-Lunenburg, Hessia, Mecklenburg, the Duchy of Brunswick, the city of Hamburg, and other inferior states.

Saxony, the chief of these states, extends about 220 miles in length, from E. to W. and about 130 in breadth, from N. to S. The inhabitants are computed at more than two millions. The chief city is Dresden, on the Elbe, of celebrated neatness, and about 50,000 inhabitants; but

but often exposed to the injuries of war. It displays several manufactures, and contains the palace and celebrated cabinets of the Elector. Leipsig has nearly 30,000 inhabitants. Wittenburg has suffered greatly by war, and is now chiefly celebrated as having been the residence of Luther.

The manufactures of Saxony are thread, linen, laces, velvet, porcelain of remarkable beauty, &c. With such advantages, Saxony maintains a considerable inland commerce; and Leipsig is esteemed one of the chief trading towns of Germany.

The government of Saxony, as is usual among the German princes, is nearly absolute, but conducted with moderation through different councils.

Next in consequence, is the electorate of Brunswick-Lunenburg, or, as it is often styled from the capital, the electorate of Hanover, containing about 850,000 inhabitants. Several countries included in this electorate, are detached from the rest by the principality of Wolfenbuttel; but the extent of the compact part may be computed at 180 miles in length, from E. to W. and about 100 miles in breadth from N. to S. The detached portion is about 80 miles in length, by 30 in its greatest breadth. The chief city is Hanover, situated on the river Leine, amidst numerous gardens and villas, containing more than 15,000 inhabitants. Gottingen stands upon the same river. Verden, near the junction of the Aller and the Weser, is of little account. Other towns are Luneburg, which imparts its name to the electorate, Lauenburg, Zell, &c.

The bishopric of Osnabruck, in Westphalia, may be considered as an appendage of Hanover: the inhabitants are about 120,000.

Hessia

Hessia is a country of considerable extent. The ruling state is denominated Hesse Cassel, from the capital. This territory is about 80 miles in length, and nearly the same in breadth; the inhabitants are about 750,000. The chief city is Cassel. Hanau is also a considerable place.

The duchy of Mecklenburg is divided into two parts, known by the additions of Schwerin, including Güstrow, and Strelitz, and contains above 350,000 inhabitants.

The territory of the Duke of Brunswick, is called the principality of Wolfenbuttel, from a town of far less importance than the capital. The inhabitants are about one hundred and seventy thousand. The city of Brunswick contains about 22,000 inhabitants.

The city of Hamburg, only surpassed by Vienna and Berlin, is supposed to be the third commercial city in Europe, and is certainly the first in Germany. The Elbe, including the islands, is here nearly a mile broad, and by means of this river, and its tributary streams, Hamburg maintains a great inland commerce. The inhabitants of this city are supposed to be 100,000.

Lubec, built upon an inlet of the Baltic, was formerly a maritime republic of great importance, but has fallen from its ancient splendour.

In this northern half of Germany are also Oldenburg, now a detached principality; Swedish Pomerania; the principality of Anhalt; &c. and the city of Frankfort on the Mayn. Its fairs are not less celebrated than those of Leipsig.

The other chief powers, which are ecclesiastic, are the elector of Mentz, whose capital, and Worms, another city on the left bank of the Rhine, are now attached to the French territory: the elector of Triers or Treves, whose extensive dominions being chiefly on the left bank of the

 Rhine,

Rhine, have also been seized by the French: the elector of Cologne, whose territories are nearly in the same predicament; but who possesses the province called Westphalia, in which are the bishoprics of Munster, Osnabruck, and Paderborn; in Lower Saxony is the bishopric of Hildesheim; in Upper Rhine is that of Fulda; and the large bishopric of Wurtzburg, in Franconia, is also principally on the north bank of the Mayn.

### *German States on the South of the Mayn.*

As in the northern division of Germany, there are two preponderating powers, the electors of Saxony and Hanover; so in the southern division there are two superior potentates, the elector Palatine, now king of Bavaria, and the Duke of Wurtemburg, also recently elevated to the title of king of Wurtemburg.

More than half of the Palatinate on the left bank of the Rhine, has been seized by the French; the remaining part, on the right bank of the river, is about 24 miles in length, and an equal breadth. It contains the best part of the principality, pervaded by the river Necker. It produces excellent wines, and is enriched by the cities of Manheim and Heidelberg.

The duchy of Bavaria, raised to the dignity of a kingdom, is divided into Upper and Lower. The length from N. to S. may be about 150 miles, the breadth 120. Upper Bavaria is in a great degree mountainous, and covered with forests, interspersed with lakes. Lower Bavaria is more plain and fertile. The chief city of Upper Bavaria is Munich, esteemed the most elegant in Germany, with 38,000 inhabitants. In Lower Bavaria are Landshut and Strauben, the latter on the Danube, as is Ratisbon, which,

though

though seized by the elector, is regarded as a free and imperial city.

The duchy of Wurtemburg, now a kingdom, forms the most considerable and fertile part of the circle of Suabia, and next to Saxony, is one of the best of the empire. The chief city is Stutgard, situated on a rivulet, which flows into Necker. Several accessions from other neighbouring states have been made to Bavaria and Wurtemburg, to support their regal dignity.

Among the secondary powers are Anspach or Onolsbach, and Bareuth, maintaining a population of 320,000. These regions are mountainous and sandy, but near the Mayn yield good wine.

The principality of Bareuth, also known by the name of Culmbach, and Onolsbach, form the chief power in Franconia, lately resigned by the sovereign of Prussia.

The country of Salz, also called Salzia, and the archbishopric of Salzburg, is a compact and interesting region, about 100 miles in length, and 60 at its greatest breadth. Its population is computed at 250, or perhaps more justly at 200,000. Salzburg has a university, and contains about 20,000 inhabitants. The saltworks, about 12 miles to the S. are very lucrative.

This grand southern division of Germany, also contains the territories of the Margrave, now elector of Baden; the lands of Hesse Darmstadt; the imperial city of Nuremburg; and Ulm.

The ecclesiastical territories are the archbishopric of Salzburg, and the large bishopric of Wurtzburg, chiefly on the N. of the Mayn; next to which is Bamburg; the bishopric of Spire, on the Rhine, now chiefly subject to France; the bishopric of Aichstett, in the southern extremity of Franconia; the large and opulent bishopric of

 Augsburg,

Augsburg, in Suabia; of Constance, whose territories extend into Switzerland; a great part of the bishopric of Strasburgh; and the bishoprics of Passau, in Bavaria; Freysingen; and Ratisbon.

MOUNTAINS.—The most northern mountains are those of the Hartz, called the Brocken or Blocksberg. These mountains rise in the form of an amphitheatre; the highest being called the great Blocksberg; the snow sometimes remains till midsummer, and even longer in the northern cavities.

In Westphalia, there are some hills near Minden, and the Hessian territories may be regarded as generally mountainous, especially towards the north. To the east of Frankfort on the Mayn, are the hilly forest of Spessart, and the metallic heights of Fulda and Henneberg: the Mayn springs from the remarkable mountain of Fichtelberg, or the mountain of pines, nearly 22 miles in length, and 16 in breadth, diversified with deserts, precipices, high rocks, and marshes. The lake called Fichtel See, is in a cavity of this mountain; but is of little extent, being only remarkable as the source of the White Mayn.

But the most remarkable mountains in that part of Germany, which lies to the N. of the Mayn, are the Erzgeberg or Metallic Mountains, which rise to the N. E. of the Fichtelberg, running between Bohemia and Saxony; but supplying both countries with silver, tin, and other metals.

On the S. of the Mayn are the mountains of the Black Forest, extending from Nuenburg, in the territories of Wurtemburg, to the four forest towns on the Rhine.

The southern part is called the High Forest, and the northern the Lower; the length being about 80 miles, and the breadth 20.

The

The eastern part presents a gradual elevation, while the western shews its pecipitous summits to the inhabitants of Baden and Alsace. A branch of the Black mountain spreads E. from Salz, on the Necker, towards the county of Oetingen, being more than 60 miles in length. This chain is called the Alb, and sometimes the Suabian Alps.

The S. E. of this portion of Germany is bounded by the mountains of Bavaria and Salzia, or Salzburg, which exceed the Carpathian or Pyrenean chain in height, and only yield to the Swiss or Tyrolese Alps; the highest summits being computed at more than 10,000 feet above the sea. The chief ridge is on the S. and E. of the country, being an elongation of the grand chain, reaching from Mount Blanc and Mount Rosa, along the N. of Italy through Tyrol.

RIVERS.—Both these portions of Germany are watered by numerous and important rivers. In the N. the Elbe is the most considerable, rising in the mountains of Silesia. It receives the large river Havel, from the E. and enters the sea near Cuxhaven, after a comparative course of more than 500 miles. The chief cities on the banks of the Elbe, are Dresden, Meissen, Wittenburg, and Magdeburg, from which it runs almost a solitary stream to Hamburg.

Not far to the W. is the mouth of the Weser, which flows about 270 miles. The principal towns on this river are Bevern, Minden, and Bremen.

The sources of the Rhine have been already mentioned, and its course may be estimated at about 600 miles.

In the southern part of Germany, the most important river is the Danube, which runs about 250 miles through this part of Germany, passing by Ulm, Ratisbon, and Passau.

The Necker is a tributary stream of the Rhine, rising in the Black Forest, not far from the Danube, and running a picturesque course of about 150 miles.

Another and grander tributary stream is the Mayn. After pervading the rich bishoprics of Bamberg, and Wurtzburg, and some territories of the see of Mentz, it waters the walls of Frankfort, formerly a city of celebrated trade.

LAKES.—Of the few lakes which ornament the northern part of Germany, the lake of Plau, in the duchy of Mecklenburg, is the largest. It extends, under various names, about 25 miles in length, by six in breadth: that of Schwerin is about 18 miles in length, while that of Ratzburg is 15.

In the more southern and Alpine regions is the Boden See, or lake of Constance, partly belonging to Switzerland, and partly to this country. In the S. is the Chiem See, in Upper Bavaria, about 14 miles in length, by five in breadth.

UNIVERSITIES.—Saxony is distinguished for literature, and there are many colleges and academies in this district, among which the mineralogical academy at Freyberg is esteemed the leading school of that science. The university at Gottingen, instituted by George II. has obtained considerable and deserved applause; and in the S. particularly in Bavaria, education is encouraged by laudable institutions, not to be found in any other protestant country. There is an academy at Tubingen, and another at Stutgard.

RELIGION.—The religion of the greater part of Germany is the Reformed, introduced into Saxony by Martin Luther: yet the S. continues firmly attached to the Roman Catholic faith, now chiefly supported by the house of Austria.

GOVERNMENT.

GOVERNMENT.—The government of the German states is an aristocracy, which formerly elected a monarch of any family; Catholic, Lutheran, or Calvinist: but under present circumstances, Germany, like other neighbouring powers, is at the disposal of France, and the newly erected kingdoms of Bavaria and Wurtemburg, are only to be considered as dependent principalities, instituted as protecting barriers to the French empire.

# ASIA.

SITUATION.—The continent of Asia, which joins to the eastern part of Europe, is situated between the 26th degree of E. longitude, and the 170th degree W. from London; and extends from the southern cape of Malacca, within two degrees of the equator, to the 80th degree N. latitude.

BOUNDARIES.—The northern and southern boundaries are the Arctic and Indian oceans: on the W. it is separated from Africa by the Red sea, and from Europe by the Levant, or that part of the Mediterranean, which washes the coast of Syria, by the Archipelago, the Helespont, the sea of Marmora, the Bosphorus, the Black sea, the sea of Azov, the river Don, the Volga, and the Uralian mountains; on the east it is bounded by the Pacific ocean, which divides it from America; but near the latitude of the Arctic circle it is well known, that these great continents are only separated by a narrow strait, which, in honour of the discoverer, is called Beering's strait.

EXTENT.

EXTENT.—The extent of this country is more than 6500 geographical miles in length from the Dardanelles, on the west, to the eastern shores of Tatary; and about 4500 in breadth from the southern part of Malacca to the most northern cape of Novaya Zemlia.

DIVISIONS.—Asia may properly be described under the following general arrangement of the empires and kingdoms into which it is divided; 1st. Turkey in Asia, naturally connecting with the description of Europe. 2. The Russian Empire. 3. China, including Chinese Tatary, and Tibet. 4. Japan. 5. The Birman empire, or India beyond the Ganges. 6. Hindostan. 7. Persia. 8. Independent Tatary. 9. Arabia. 10. Islands in the Indian and Pacific oceans.

INLAND SEAS.—Though Asia cannot vie with Europe in the advantages of inland seas, yet, in addition to a share of the Mediterranean, it possesses the Red sea; the Arabian sea; the gulph of Ormus, leading to the gulph of Bassora, or the Persian gulph, between Arabia and Persia; the bay of Bengal, between the peninsulas of India; the gulphs of Siam and Tonquin, in the S. of China; the Yellow sea, between the peninsula of Korea and China; the gulph of Korea; the sea of Kamtschatka, between the peninsula and eastern Tatary; and other gulphs, which diversify the coasts much more than those of Africa or America, and doubtless have greatly contributed to the early civilization of this celebrated division of the earth.

The Red sea, or the Arabian gulph of antiquity, constitutes the grand natural division between Asia and Africa; but its advantages have chiefly been felt by the latter, particularly by Egypt and Abyssinia. This celebrated gulph extends from the strait of Babelmandel to Suez,

about

about 1470 miles, terminating in two unequal branches, the eastern, which ascends but little beyond the parallel of Mount Sinai, and the western branch, which is much more extensive.

The Persian gulph is about half the length of the Red sea, being the grand receptacle of those celebrated rivers, the Euphrates and the Tigris.

The vast extent of Asia also contains seas totally detached, and of a different description from any that occur in Europe, or in other quarters of the globe. Such is the Caspian sea; extending about 700 miles in length, and from one to two hundred in breadth. At one period it seems to have extended farther to the N. where the deserts are still sandy and saline; but the chain of mountains, which branches from the W. of the Urals to the N. of Orenburg, and reaches to the Volga, must, in all ages, have restricted the northern bounds of the Caspian. Yet to the E. it is probable, that this remarkable sea extended to the lake of Aral, the deserts on that side presenting the same features as those on the N. This sea is the receptacle of many important rivers.

About 100 miles to the E. of the Caspian, is the sea or lake of Aral, which is about 200 miles in length, and 70 in breadth; receiving the river anciently called Iaxartes, more recently the Sirr or Sihon, and the river Gihon, the Oxus of antiquity, both streams of considerable course. The lake Aral is salt like the Caspian, and there are many small saline lakes in the vicinity.

Another remarkable detached sea is that of Baikal, in Siberia, being about 350 miles in length; but its greatest breadth is not above 35. The water is fresh and transparent, yet of a green or sea tinge. It is commonly frozen in December, and clear of ice in May. At particular periods

riods it is subject to violent and unaccountable storms.

MOUNTAINS.—The Asiatic mountains are said not to equal the European in height; but the Altaian chain may be classed among the most extensive on the globe, stretching about 5000 miles, in length, thus rivaling the Andes of S. America. This chain, beyond the sources of the Yenisei, is called the mountains of Sayansk; and from the S. of the sea of Baikal, the mountains of Yablonnoy; branches of which extend even to the extreme boundaries of Asia. To the S. of the Altaian ridge extends the elevated desert of Cobi or Shamo, running in a parallel direction from E. to W. and the high region of Tibet may be included in this central prominence of Asia. Other considerable ranges are Bogdo, bordering the deserts of Mongolia; Changai, a south-eastern branch; Belur, part of the ancient Imaus, in the centre of Asia; the mountains of Tibet; the eastern and western Gauts of Hindostan; and the Caucasian chain, between the Euxine and Caspian seas.

RIVERS.—The chief rivers of Asia are the Kian Ku and Hoan Ho, in China; the Lena, the Yenisei, and the Ob, through Siberia, which, in the length of their course, rival any others on the face of the globe. The Volga, though principally a European river, penetrates Asia, and falls into the Caspian sea.

Next in consequence are the Amur, through Chinese Tatary; the Sampoo or Burrampooter, and the Ganges, in Hindostan; compared with all which, the Indus and the Euphrates hide their diminished heads.

RELIGION.—The Mahometan religion prevails through Turkey, Arabia, Persia, part of Tatary, and part of India; in other parts of Tatary and India,

India, in China, Japan, and the Asiatic islands, the inhabitants are generally heathens and idolaters. Christianity though originally planted here, and disseminated with wonderful rapidity, is almost extirpated. Jews are to be found in every part of Asia.

Government.—The Asiatic governments are almost universally despotic, and the very idea of a common-wealth seems to be unknown. The wandering tribes of Arabs and Tatars are the only inhabitants who can be said to enjoy some share of liberty.

## TURKEY IN ASIA.

Boundaries.—In the N. the Turkish territories are now divided from the Russian by the river Cuban, and the mountains of Caucasus; in the S. they extend to the junction of the Tigris and the Euphrates, which last river, for a considerable space, divides the Turkish possessions from those of the Arabs. The boundaries towards Persia are rather ideal than natural, though somewhat marked by the mountains of Ararat and Elwend.

Extent.—This region extends from the shores of the Egean sea or the Archipelago, to the confines of Persia, about 1050 miles. From the river Cuban to the junction of the Tigris and Euphrates, may be about 1100 miles.

Population.—The population of this country is estimated at ten millions.

Divisions.—This extensive territory is divided into nine or ten provinces. Natolia, the most westerly,

westerly, is followed by Karaman in the S. and Roum in the N. E. To the N. of Armenia are Guria, or Guriel, Mingrelia, and the Abkhas of Caucasus, the ancient Circassians. Armenia is also styled Turcomania; to the S. of which are Kurdistan, and Irak Arabi, a part of ancient Persia, around the celebrated city of Bagdad. The ancient Mesopotamia, between the Tigris and the Euphrates, now partly corresponds with the province of Algezira; and the classical name of Syria or Soria, is still allotted to the countries along the eastern extremities of the Mediterranean.

Cities and Towns.—Haleb or Aleppo, on the eastern coast of the Mediterranean, is next in consequence to the capital, and supposed to contain 250,000 inhabitants. The manufactures of silk and cotton are in a flourishing condition; and large caravans frequently arrive from Bagdad and Bassora, charged with the products of Persia and India. Consuls from various European powers reside here, and attend to the interests of the respective nations by whom they are deputed.

Damascus was formerly celebrated for the manufacture of sabres, by a method now lost. The manufactures now consist of silk and cotton, chiefly mingled together; and excellent soap is made of oil of olives, with kali and chalk. The inhabitants are estimated at 180,000.

Smyrna is the flourishing seat of European commerce, and the chief mart of the Levant trade, and is said to have been founded by Alexander the Great. The excellence of the haven renders Smyrna the centre of all the traffic of Asia Minor; but the frequent visits of the pestilence greatly impede its prosperity. The inhabitants are about 120,000.

Prusa

Prusa is a beautiful city in a romantic situation, at the foot of Mount Olympus, on the northern side. Maguisi or Magnesia, is also a city of some repute in this quarter of the empire; but the modern situation seems different from the ancient. Angora is a striking and agreeable city in a lofty situation. The trade is chiefly in yarn, of which our shalloons are made, and in their own manufacture of Agora stuffs, from the fine hair of their goats.

Tokat is also a flourishing place, in a singular situation, amidst rugged and perpendicular rocks of marble. Its manufactures are silk and leather, but chiefly copper vessels, which are sent to Constantinople, and even to Egypt.

Basra or Bassora, on the estuary of the Euphrates, rather belongs to an independent Arabian prince; but has an intimate connection with Asiatic Turkey. Here the various products of Europe and India are exchanged for those of Persia. The inhabitants are about 50,000.

The great and romantic Bagdat, the seat of the Caliphs, is now dwindled to a town of moderate extent. Not far to the S. are some ruins of the celebrated Babylon; and towards the frontiers of Persia is Erzeron, the capital of Armenia. The splendid ruins of Palmyra or Tadmor, in the desert, are about 150 miles to the S. of Aleppo; and Balbec, the ancient Heliopolis, is about 50 miles to the N. W. of Damascus.

MOUNTAINS.—Of the mountains of Asiatic Turkey, the first rank is due to the Taurian chain of antiquity, supposed to extend from the Archipelago to the sources of the Ganges; but this notion is not supported by the description of modern travellers. The Caucasian mountains range from the mouth of the river Cuban to the river Kur, at its entrance into the Caspian. A chain

is supposed to extend from Caucasus S. W. nearly to the bay of Scanderoon. This ridge seems to be the Anti Taurus of antiquity. The chain of Taurus, now called Kurun, perhaps from the old Greek name Ceraunus, extends for about 600 miles E. and W. from the Euphrates nearly to the shores of the Archipelago.

Towards the east of Armenia is Ararat. It is a detached mountain with two summits, the highest being covered with perpetual snow. In Syria, the most celebrated mountain is Lebanon or Libanus, running N. and S. in the direction of the Mediterranean shore, at the distance of 30 or 40 miles. Anti Libanus is a short detached chain, nearly parallel, on the east.

On the eastern side of the Archipelago is the classical Olympus, now Keshik Dag, a vast range covered with perpetual snow; and about 140 miles to the west, rises mount Ida, of great though not equal height. The summit of Ida was called Garganus by the ancients; from which extend western prominences reaching to the Hellespont, and amidst them stood the celebrated city of Troy.

Rivers.—The principal river is the Euphrates, which rises from the mountains of Armenia, a few miles to the north-east of Erzeron. It is joined by the Morad from the east, a stream almost double the length of the Euphrates; so that the latter river might more justly be said to spring from Mount Ararat, about 160 miles to the east of the imputed source. At Semisat, the ancient Samosata, this noble river assumes a southerly direction, and after receiving the Tigris, falls by two or three mouths into the gulph of Persia. The comparative course of the Euphrates may be estimated at 1400 miles.

The

The Tigris, which rises about 150 miles S. of the sources of the Euphrates, runs nearly parallel to it, till their waters are united about 60 miles to the north of Bassora, after a comparative course of 800 miles. These rivers are both navigable for a considerable distance from the sea.

The third river of Asiatic Turkey is the celebrated Halys of antiquity, called by the Turks Kizil Irmak. It rises in Mount Taurus, and pursues a winding course to the N. nearly across the whole of Asia Minor, till it joins the Euxine sea on the west of the gulph of Sansoun.

Next in rank is the classical river Mæander, now called the Minder, running in a winding stream, about 250 miles. The Sarabat, or ancient Hermus, renowned for its golden sands, joins the Archipelago about 90 miles to the N. of the Minder, after a course of similar length.

The chief river of Syria is the Orontes, now called Oron or Osi, rising about twelve miles to the N. of Damascus, and running nearly due N. till it turns suddenly to the S. E. near Antioch, after which it soon joins the Mediterranean.

Lakes.—Asiatic Turkey also contains numerous lakes. That of Van, in the north of Kurdistan, is the most remarkable, being about 80 miles in length, and 40 in breadth. In Syria, the lake called the Dead sea, is about 50 miles in length, and 12 or 13 in breadth.

Towards the centre of Asia Minor, there is a remarkable saline lake, about 70 miles in length, and a mile or two in breadth. Numerous other small lakes appear in Natolia, among which is that of Ulubad, anciently styled the lake of Apolonia, which is said to be 25 miles in circumference, and in some places seven or eight wide, sprinkled with several isles, the largest of which is about three miles in circuit.

## ISLANDS
belonging to
## ASIATIC TURKEY.

The chief islands of the Archipelago, considered as belonging to Asia, are Mytilene, Scio, Samos, Cos, and Rhodes.

Mytilene, the ancient Lesbos, is the most northerly and the largest of these isles, being about 40 miles in length, and 24 at its greatest breadth. The mountainous appearance of this isle is agreeably diversified with bays and inlets of the sea, and with plantations of olives, vines, and myrtle.

Scio, the ancient Chios, is about 36 miles in length, but only about 13 in medial breadth. The town of Scio on the eastern side, is handsome and convenient. The whole isle is mountainous, but the industry of the Greeks, who enjoy considerable ease and freedom, gives it the appearance of a garden. The inhabitants are supposed to be about 60,000.

Samos is about 30 miles in length, and 10 in breadth. This isle is also crossed by a chain of hills, and the most agreeable part is the plain of Cora. The inhabitants, who are computed at 12,000, are all Greeks, with a Turkish Aga, or military officer, and a cadi or judge. Some remains of the celebrated temple of Juno are still to be observed.

Cos is about 24 miles in length, by three or four in breadth. The chief trade is in oranges and lemons. It is the residence of a Turkish Pasha.

RHODES is about 36 miles in length, by 15 in breadth, and is celebrated in ancient and modern times. The population is computed at 30,000. The city of the same name, in which no christian is now permitted to dwell, stands on the N. end of the isle, and was formerly noted for a colossus in bronze, about 130 feet high.

Along the southern shore of Asia Minor, there are some small isles, but they are of no moment compared with the large and celebrated island of CYPRUS, which is 160 miles in length, and about 70 at its greatest breadth. Cyprus is said to have derived its name from the abundance of copper ore, and anciently to have produced gold, silver, and emeralds. To the disgrace of the Turkish government, the population of this island is computed at 50,000. Cyprus is pervaded by a chain of mountains, among which is a third *Olympus*. The chief cities are Nicosia, the capital and residence of the governor, and Famagusta.

# RUSSIA IN ASIA.

EXTENT.—This large portion of the habitable globe extends almost the whole length of Asia, for about 190 degrees, from the 37th degree of long. E. of London, to the 170th degree of western longitude. The greatest breadth from the icy shores of the Arctic ocean to the Altaian chain of mountains, on the S. of the sea of Baikal, may be roughly computed at 1960 miles, and the length from the river Volga to the sea of Kamchatka, about 5350; an extent which exceeds that of Europe.

BOUNDARIES.—On the north, east, and west, the boundaries of the Russian territory correspond with those of Asia. On the S. the river Cuban, part of Mount Caucasus, and an ideal line divide this country from Turkey and Persia. The boundary then ascends along the N. of the Caspian through the stepp or desert of Issim, till it meets the vast empire of China, and proceeds along the Altaian chain to the sources of the Onon, where it includes a considerable region, called Daouria, extending about 200 miles in breadth, to the S. of the mountains of Yablonoi. The great river Amur, in part, constitutes the limit between Russia and Chinese Tatary, and thence the boundary returns to the mountainous chain, and follows a branch of it to the N. of the mouth of the Amur.

DIVISIONS.—Siberia is divided into two great governments, that of Tobolsk in the west, and Irkutsk in the east. The smaller provinces are Kolyvan, Nershinsk, Yakutsk, and Ochotsk. In the S. W. is the government of Caucasus, with one or two divisions, intermingling Europe and Asia.

POPULATION.—The inhabitants of Siberia cannot be computed at more than three millions and a half.

CITIES and TOWNS.—The principal city in Asiatic Russia is Astracan, at the mouth of the Volga, which is supposed to contain 70,000 inhabitants. Next is Orenburg, which is the seat of a considerable trade with the tribes on the E. of the Caspian.

Azov, on the Asiatic side of the Don, is of small importance, except as a fortified post. On passing the Uralian chain, first occurs the city of Tobolsk, esteemed the capital of Siberia. Kolyvan is a town of some consequence on the river

Ob.

Ob. In the neighbourhood there are silver mines of considerable produce. On the river Yenisei is a small town of the same name, and another called Sayansk, whence the adjacent part of the Altaian chain is called the mountains of Sayansk. On the river Angara, which issues from the sea of Baikal, stands Irkutsk, the chief mart of the commerce between Russia and China. On the wide and frozen Lena stands Yakutsk, chiefly inhabited by Russians, as the Yakuts are fond of a wandering life. Ochotsk, on the sea of the same name, may rather be regarded as a station than a town.

MOUNTAINS.—The grandest chain of mountains in Siberia is that of Altai, which presents its precipitous and snowy summits between the river Irtish and the sources of the Ob. Thence it winds by the springs of the Yenesei, and the south of the sea of Baikal, where it is called the mountains of Sayansk. Hence the Altaian chain bends in a more northerly direction, to the neighbourhood of Ochotsk, under the appellation of the Yablonoi ridge. The same range in the N. of Daouria, is also called the Daourian mountains; and, in this quarter, a lower ridge passes S. towards China. Bogdo Tolu, or Bogdo Alim, the almighty mountain, rears its pointed summits with striking sublimity on the limit between the Soongarian and Mongolian deserts, while a chain extends to the lake of Altyn in the N. W. and another to the S. E. called Changay, and a snowy ridge, that of Massart, passes S. and is supposed to join those of Tibet.

RIVERS.—Some of the largest rivers of Asia belong to the Russian empire, nearly equalling in the length of their course any others on the globe. The Ob, with its wide estuary, may be said to hold a comparative course of 1900 miles, while

while that of the Yenesei is about 1750, and that of the Lena 1570. In the same mode of mensuration the Hoan Ho of the Chinese, in its wandering progress, will exceed the Ob; while the Kian Ku, pervading the centre of China, may be traced for a length of about 2,000 miles. The Yaik is a considerable stream which falls into the Caspian, the name being recently changed for that of Ural. The Terek also joins the Caspian on the W. whilst the Kuban or ancient Hypanis, runs in an opposite direction into the Euxine.

LAKES.—In the N. of Siberia the most considerable lake is that of Piazinsko. The sea of Baikal, already described, exceeds that of any other lake. Between the river Ob and the Irtish, is a large lake about 170 miles in length, divided by a small island into two lakes, called the lakes of Tchany and Soumi. The Altan Nor, or golden lake, is on the E. of Zaritzin. The lake Altyn, which is the source of the Ob, is called by the Russians Teletzko. It is considerably elevated on the northern side of the Altaian mountains; but is supposed not to exceed 40 miles in length, by 20 in breadth.

RELIGION.—The Grecian system of the Christian faith, which is embraced by the Russians, has made considerable progress in their Asiatic possessions. Many of the Tatar tribes in the S. W. are Mahometans; and others are idolaters, and follow the superstition of the Dalai Lama.

GOVERNMENT.—Siberia is subject to Russia, but in the countries distant from the capital, the government becomes proportionably lax, and tribute is the chief mark of subjection.

ISLANDS

## ISLANDS

belonging to

## ASIATIC RUSSIA.

THESE are the Aleutian, the Andrenovian or Fox islands, and the Kurile isles. Of the Aleutian isles there are only two worth notice, BERING'S ISLE and COPPER ISLE, both uninhabited. The ANDRENOVIAN ISLES, if they exist, are an extention of the western range of the FOX ISLANDS, and may be regarded as a kind of elongation of the American promontory of Alaska. The KURILE ISLES extend from the southern promontory of Kamchatka towards the land of Jesso and Japan, being supposed to be about 20 in number. Several of them are volcanic; and some contain forests of birch, alder, and pine. Most of them swarm with foxes of various colours. The inhabitants seem to be of similar origin with the Kamchadals.

# THE CHINESE EMPIRE.

THE Chinese Empire may now be considered as extending from those parts of the Pacific ocean called the Chinese and Japanic seas, to the rivers Sarasou and Sihon in the W. a space of 81 degrees, which at the medial latitude, will amount nearly to 5000 miles. From N. to S. this vast empire may be computed from the Altaian mountains,

mountains, lat. 50°. to the southern part of China, about lat. 21°. at more than 2000 miles.

This empire therefore consists of three principal divisions; that of China Proper; the territory of the Mandshurs and Monguls, on the N. and W. and lastly the singular and interesting region of Tibet.

# CHINA PROPER.

EXTENT.—China Proper extends from the great wall in the N. to the Chinese sea in the S. about 1330 miles. The breadth from the shores of the Pacific to the frontiers of Tibet may be computed at about 1000 miles.

BOUNDARIES.—On the south and east the boundaries are maritime, and to the N. they are marked by the great wall and the desert of Shamo; the confines with Tibet on the W. seem to be chiefly indicated by an ideal line, though occasionally more strongly marked by mountains and rivers, particularly the Yalon, which falls into the Kian Ku.

POPULATION.—The population has been computed at 333,000,000; but a reduction of one third would probably bring the estimate nearer the truth.

DIVISIONS.—The empire of China is divided into fifteen provinces, each of which, for its extent, fertility, populousness, and opulence, might rank as a distinct kingdom.

CITIES.—The chief cities of China are Pekin and Nankin, or the northern and southern courts. Pekin occupies a large space of ground, but the

streets

streets are wide, and the houses seldom exceed one story. The length of that part which is called the Tatar city, is about four miles, and the suburbs are considerable. The population is computed at three millions. The walls of this capital are of considerable strength and thickness; and the nine gates of no inelegant architecture. Nankin, which was formerly the residence of the court, is more extensive than Pekin, and is reputed the largest city in the empire. The walls are said to be about 17 miles in circumference. The chief edifices are the gates, a few temples, and a celebrated tower cloathed with porcelain, about 200 feet in height.

To a European, the most interesting city is Canton, which is said to contain a million and a half of inhabitants; numerous families residing in barks on the river. The chief export is tea, of which it is said that 13,000,000lbs. weight, or more than 5800 tons, are consumed by Great Britain and her dependencies, and about 5,000,000lbs by the rest of Europe.

MOUNTAINS.—No general and accurate information has yet been given of the Chinese mountains. From the best accounts it appears, that a considerable branch extends from those in central Asia, running S. to the river Hohan-ho. Two grand ranges, running east and west, intersect the centre of the empire, seemingly continuations of the enormous chains of Tibet. In the southern part of China the principal ridges appear to run from N. to S.

RIVERS.—The Hohan-ho and the Kian-ku, the two great rivers of this country, deserve particular attention. The sources of the former are two lakes, situated amongst the mountains of that part of Tatary, which is known by the name of Kokonor. It is also called the Yellow river, from

the

the quantity of mud which it devolves. This prodigious river is extremely winding and devious in its course, pursuing a north-eastern direction, till it is lost in the Yellow sea. Its comparative circuit may be estimated at 1800 miles, or, according to the late embassy, 2150. About 70 miles from the sea it is crossed by the imperial canal, at which part the breadth is little more than a mile, and the depth only about nine or ten feet, but the velocity equals seven or eight miles in the hour.

The Kian-ku rises in the vicinity of the sources of the Hoan-ho, or according to some accounts 200 miles farther to W. and winds nearly as far to the S. as the Hohan-ho does to the N. After washing the walls of Nankin, it falls into the sea about 100 miles to the S. of the Hoan-ho. The course of these two river is nearly equal, being considered as the longest on the face of the globe. They certainly equal, if they do not exceed the famous river of the Amazons, in South America, and the majestic course of the Ganges does not extend half the length.

LAKES.—China is not destitute of noble and extensive lakes. Tong-tint-hou, in the province of Hou-quang, is more than 80 leagues in circumference. That of Poyang-hou, in the province of Kiang-si, is about 30 leagues in circumference, and is formed by the confluence of four rivers as large as the Loire. There is also a considerable lake not far to the S. of Nankin, called Tai-hou.

RELIGION.—The Chinese are idolaters. Almost as early as the commencement of the christian æra, the sect of Fo was introduced into China from Hindostan. The name was derived from the idol. The priests are denominated Bonzes, and Fo is supposed to be gratified by the favour shewn

shewn to his servants. The Chinese temples are always open, and no subdivision of the month is known in the country.

GOVERNMENT.—The government of China is well known to be patriarchal. The Emperor is absolute; but the examples of tyranny are rare, as he is taught to regard his people as his children, and not as slaves. The governors of the provinces have great and absolute power, yet rebellions are not unfrequent; bribery is a common vice; and the Chinese government, like many others, is more fair in theory than practice.

## CHINESE ISLES.

NUMEROUS islands are scattered along the southern and eastern coasts of China, the largest being those of Taiwan, also called Formosa, and that of Hainan.

FORMOSA is a recent acquisition of the Chinese, by whose accounts the inhabitants are little better than savages. This island is divided from N. to S. by mountains. The Chinese possessions are chiefly in the western part.

The southern part of HAINAN is mountainous, but the northern more level, and productive of rice. In the centre are mines of gold, and on the shores small blue fishes, much esteemed by the Chinese; but they survive only a few days, when confined to a small quantity of water.

The isles of LEOO-KEOO, between Formosa and Japan, constitute a little civilized kingdom, tributary to China. These isles are said to be 36 in number, but are very inconsiderable, except

the chief, which is properly and peculiarly called Leoo-keoo; by the Chinese accounts the length is about 125 miles. The language of the inhabitants is said to differ from that of China or Japan. The people are mild, affable, gay, and temperate: and the chief products are sulphur, copper, tin, shells, and mother of pearl.

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## CHINESE TATARY.

The name of Tartary, more properly Tatary, was originally extended over the vast regions lying between Tibet, China, and the Arctic ocean; and from the Black sea in the west, to the utmost bounds of north-eastern discovery in Asia. The northern part has acquired the name of Siberia, while the southern, in some maps, is known by the appellations of Eastern and Western Tartary. Yet even in this part, which might more properly be styled central Asia, the Tatars, strictly so denominated, are few; the most numerous tribes being Monguls in the west, and Mandshurs in the east.

Extent.—This wide and interesting portion of Asia extends from the 72°. of longitude east of Greenwich, to the 145°. a space which at the medial latitude of 45°. will yield more than 3000 geographical miles. The breadth, from the northern frontier of Tibet to the Russian confines, is about 1100 geographical miles.

Boundaries.—The boundary towards Russia has already been described. The eastern boundary is the sea, while the southern extends along the

the Chinese wall, and the northern limits of Tibet. The western boundary is supplied by the celebrated mountains of Belur Tag, or the Cloudy Mountains, which divide the Chinese empire from Balk, and the greater Bucharia; while the range on the W. of the lake Palkati, separates the Kalmucs, subject to China, from the Kirguses of Independent Tatary.

POPULATION.—Of the population of these regions it is difficult to form any precise ideas, but perhaps it may be reasonable to conjecture, that the wide deserts and barren mountains of central Asia, do not contain above six millions of inhabitants.

DIVISIONS.—The country of the Mandshurs is divided by the Chinese into three large governments. 1. That of Chinyang, comprising Leao-dong, surrounded in part by a strong barrier of wood. The chief town is Chinyang, also called Mugden by the Mandshurs. 2. The government of Kiren Oula, which extends far to the N. E. Kirem the capital, stands on the river Songari, which falls into the Sagalien or Amur. 3. The government Tsitchicar, so called from a town recently founded on the Nonni Oula, where a Chinese garrison is stationed. The Russians call this province Daouria, from the tribe Tagouri, who possess a great part of this territory.

In this division may also be mentioned the Corea, which has for many centuries acknowledged the authority of China, and which boasts a considerable population.

To the W. are various tribes of Monguls, as the Kalkas, those around Koko Nor, or the Blue Lake, who are also called Eluts, or Kalmucs. Their country may be considered under three divisions. 1. That part called Gete, towards the lakes of Palkati, Balkash, and Zaizan. 2. Little

 Bucharia,

Bucharia, inhabited by an industrious race of people of a distinct origin, who are little mingled with their Kalmuc or Mongul lords. 3. The countries of Turfan, to the N. of the lake called Lok Nor, and that of Chamil or Hami to the east, regions but little known, and surrounded with wide deserts.

CITIES.—Chinese Tatary contains several cities and towns, generally constructed of wood, and of little antiquity and duration.

MOUNTAINS.—The vast ranges of mountains, which intersect the centre of Asia, have never been sufficiently described. Near the middle the great mountain of Bogdo gives source to the upper Irtish, and runs from S. W. to N. E. about a degree and a half from the lake Lop, or Lok Nor. The chief Altaian chain passes in a more northerly direction, from which the chain of Changai branches, passing to the S. E. On the N. E. the mountains of Sayansk appear to be a continuation of the Altain chain, and are followed by the Yablonnoi mountains, bending more to the north.

The great rivers of Onon and Argoon, with others that flow in an opposite direction into the Selinga, rise from the high ridge of Sochondo, the summits of which consist of large rocks, heaped upon each other in successive terraces. This ridge is clothed with perpetual snow, and after dividing the rivers of Russian Daouria from those that flow into the Baikal, passes S. W. and joins an icy chain, which runs into Mongolia.

The snowy range of Musart runs E. and W. to the N. of Cashgar, and is continued by a still greater chain called Alak, and also Terek Daban. The immense ridge denominated Belur Tag, or the Cloudy mountains, runs from N. to S. dividing the Usbek Tatars from the Kalmuks; while

the

the range of Mus Tag runs E. and W. in the 38°. of latitude, giving source to several rivers, which flow north into that of Irken or Yarkand.

The northern mountains of Tibet, and those which furnish the sources of the Ganges, are but imperfectly known.

RIVERS.—The most important river is the Russian Amur, by the Mandshurs called the Sagalian Oula. The Amur rises near the Yablonnoi mountains, where it is first known by the names of Kerlon and Argoon, and pursues an easterly course of about 1850 miles. The Amur is joined by the Songari, which itself receives the large river Nonni. The Russian waters of Selinga and Irtish also pervade a part of central Asia. The river of Yarkand has a considerable course before it enters the lake of Lop. The Ili falls into the lake of Balkash.

LAKES.—Some of the lakes are of great extent, as those of Balkash or Tengis, and Zaizan, each about 150 miles in length. Next is the Koko Nor, or Blue lake, which gives name to a tribe of the Monguls.

RELIGION.—The religion most generally diffused, admits the belief of a supreme author of nature, who governs the universe by the agency of inferior spirits of great power. Some adopt a form of superstition, which approaches very nearly to that of Tibet.

GOVERNMENT.—The government of these countries is conducted by princes, who pay homage to the Chinese empire, and receive Chinese titles of honor; but many of the ancient forms are retained.

## ISLAND
### of
## SAGALIAN, OR TCHOKA.

By the accounts and maps of Perouse, this large island is only divided from Jesso by a narrow strait of about 20 miles in breadth, which is now called the strait of Perouse. It extends not less than 480 geographical miles in length, by about 80 of medial breadth. By the natives it is named Tchoka, by the Japanese Oku Jesso, while the Russians, who only know the northern part, call it the isle of Sagalian, because it is opposite to the large river of that name. The centre is mountainous and well wooded, but the shores are level, and singularly adapted to agriculture. The people are mild and intelligent; but quite distinct from the Mandshurs, or the Chinese.

## TIBET.

Extent.—Tibet extends from the 75th to the 101st degree of longitude, which in the lat. of 30°. may be about 1350 geographical miles. The breadth may be regarded as extending from the 27th to the 35th; or according to the Russian accounts, to the 38th degree of N. lat. about 600 geographical miles.

Divisions.—Tibet is divided into three parts, Upper, Middle, and Lower. Upper Tibet chiefly comprises

comprises the province of Nagari, which is full of horrible rocks, and mountains covered with perpetual snows. Middle Tibet contains the provinces of Shang, Ou, and Kiang: while the provinces of Lower Tibet are Takbo, or Bootan, Congbo, and Kahang. These provinces are subdivided into many departments.

CITIES.—Of the cities and towns of Tibet little is known. Lassa, the capital, is situated in a spacious plain: it is a small city; but the houses are of stone, and are spacious and lofty. The noted mountain of Putala, on which stands the palace of the Lama, is about seven miles to the east of the city. Lassa is in the province of Ou, and almost in the centre of Tibet.

MOUNTAINS.– Of the course and extent of the vast ranges of Tibetian mountains there is no exact delineation. Those in the S. and W. seem to bend in the form of a crescent from the sources of the Ganges to the frontiers of Asam, in a north-western and south-eastern direction. A parallel and yet higher ridge appears to extend to the N. of Sampoo, the northern extremity abounding with frozen lakes.

RIVERS.—The chief river of Tibet beyond all comparison, is the Sampoo or Berhampootar. It rises in the western region, from the same lofty mountains that give source to the Ganges, and proceeds in an easterly and south-easterly direction for about the space of 1000 miles, to the confines of Tibet and Asam, where it bends S. W. and flows into the estuary of the Ganges, after a farther course of about 400 miles. Another large river called the Sardjoo or Gagra, also derives its source from the lofty western mountains of Tibet, and after a course of about 600 miles, nearly parallel with the Ganges on the E. joins that noble river near Chupra. The Hoan-

ho and Kian-ku of the Cinese, also derive their origin from the eastern boundaries of Tibet; to which source many other rivers but little known, may probably be referred.

LAKES.—These Alpine regions contain many lakes, the chief of which is Terkiri, about 80 miles in length, and 25 in breadth. In the northern part there is a singular lake which yields tincal or crude borax; and to the south of Lassa a more uncommon one, which is represented as a wide trench, of about two leagues broad, every where surrounding an island of about twelve leagues in diameter. In winter, even the smaller lakes in the S. of Tibet Proper are frozen to a great depth.

RELIGION.—The religion of Tibet seems to be derived from that of the Hindoos, and bears a close affinity to the religion of Brahma, though differing in its ritual or ceremonial worship.

GOVERNMENT.—The ruling government is the spiritual, though the Lama was accustomed to appoint a *tipa* or secular regent, a right which has probably passed to the Chinese Emperor. In Bootan there is a raja or prince, called Daeb, whose authority, however, is far from being firm, or extensive.

# JAPAN.

THE Japanese isles may in some measure be compared with Great Britain and Ireland, forming a grand insular power near the eastern extremity of Asia, like that of the British islands near the western extremity of Europe.

EXTENT.

EXTENT.—This empire extends from the 30th to the 41st degree of N. lat. and from the 131st to the 142nd degree of E. longitude. Besides many smaller isles, it presents two considerable ones in the S. W. that of Kiusiu, also termed Saikokf, or the western country, and that of Sikokf. But by far the most important island is that of Nipon to the N. E. of the two former. Kiusiu is about 2° or 140 miles in length from N. to S. the greatest breadth is about 90. Sikokf is about 90 miles in length by half the breadth. The grand isle of Nipon, from S. W. to N. E. is not less than 750 miles in length; but its medial breadth does not exceed 80, though in two projecting parts it may double that number.

To the N. of Nipon is another large isle, that of Jesso, inhabited by a savage people; but having received some Japanese colonies, is regarded as subject to Japan.

POPULATION.—The population of these countries is very great; and though a great part of the country be mountainous, yet even the mountains are objects of diligent cultivation. The number of people daily travelling on the high ways is inconceivable, and the chief of the great roads is more crowded than the most frequented streets of European capitals. The general population is supposed to equal 30,000,000.

CITIES.—The capital city of the Japanese empire is Jedo, centrically situated on a bay in the south-eastern side of the chief island Nipon. It is said to be 63 miles in circumference and certainly rivals Pekin in extent. Miaco, the spiritual capital, and second city of the empire, is placed in an inland situation; about 160 miles S. W. from Jedo, on a level plain; yet it is the first commercial city, and is celebrated for the principal

principal manufactures. It is also the seat of the imperial mint.

MOUNTAINS.—The principal Japanese mountain is that of Fusi, covered with snow almost throughout the year. The Fakonie mountains are in the same quarter, surrounding a lake of the same name.

Near Firando there is a volcanic island, nor are others unknown in the surrounding seas.

RIVERS.—The rivers of Nipon have not been carefully delineated. The largest seems to be the Jodo or Yodo, which flows S. W. from the central lake of Oitz.

LAKES.—One of the chief lakes is that of Oitz, which emits two rivers, and is said to be 50 Japanese leagues in length, each about an hour's journey on horseback; but the breadth is inconsiderable. Near this lake is the delightful mountain of Jesan, which is esteemed sacred, and is said to present not less than 3000 temples.

RELIGION.—The established religion of Japan is polytheism, joined with the acknowledgment of a supreme Being.

GOVERNMENT.—The Kubo, or secular emperor, is now the sole monarch of the country, though formerly the Dairis, or pontiffs, held the supreme authority. The government of each province is intrusted to a resident prince, who is strictly responsible to the Emperor, his family remaining at court as hostages, and he himself is obliged to make an annual appearance.

# BIRMAN EMPIRE.

THE Birman Empire derives its name from the Birmahs, who have been long known as a warlike nation in the region formerly styled INDIA BEYOND THE GANGES.

EXTENT.—The ascertainable limits, taken from the Birman accounts, include the space between the 9th and 26th degrees of N. lat. and between the 92nd and the 107th degrees E. long. about 1050 geographical miles in length; and 600 in breadth, which often varies, and in many places is very inconsiderable.

BOUNDARIES.—To the N. the Birman empire is divided by mountains from Asam, a country very little known or visited; and farther to the east it borders on Tibet and China. On the W. a range of mountains, and the little river Naaf, divide the Birman possessions from the British dominions in Bengal; and the limit is continued by the sea. The southern and eastern boundaries still remain obscure; but probably this empire may extend its authority over Laos and Cambodia, while it remains divided by deserts and ranges of lofty mountains from the united kingdom of Cochin-China and Tunquin.

POPULATION.—The population of the Birman dominions is vaguely estimated at seventeen millions.

CITIES.—Ava, the ancient capital, has been permitted to sink into ruin, since the recent foundation of Ummerapoora, on the eastern side of a great river, which flows into the Irrawady.

The

The new capital, with its spires, turrets, and lofty piasath or obelisk, denoting the royal presence, seems to rise, like Venice, from the waters, being placed between a lake on S. E. and the large river with numerous isles, on the N. W. The extent and population of this city are probably inconsiderable.

Pegu, formerly the capital of a kingdom, is also in ruins. The present Birman monarch has endeavoured to conciliate the native Peguese, by permitting them to rebuild their ancient city, within the site of which a new town has accordingly been reared. The city occupies about half its former extent, and is the residence of the governor.

One of the chief ports is Rangoon, which, like the capital, is of recent foundation, but is supposed to contain 30,000 inhabitants. Towards the mouth of the river Pegu stands Sirian, formerly one of the chief ports of the kingdom, and of considerable commerce, when in possession of the Portugese.

Martaban was another sea-port of considerable eminence, till the harbour was impeded by order of the emperor. The grand river Irrawdy is bordered with numerous towns and villages. Persain or Bassien stands on its western branch. At a considerable distance to the N. is Prome, celebrated as the scene of many long sieges and bloody conflicts. The number of inhabitants exceeds that of Rangoon. Pagahm is also a considerable place; to which Aracan, a recent acquisition, may be added. Monchaboo is a considerable town to the north of the capital.

Mountains.—The highest range of mountains probably is on the frontiers of Tibet. The other ranges are delineated as passing N. and S. but the names are not indicated, except those of Anoupec,

Anoupec, between Ava and Aracan, and a small range running E. and W. which supplies the sources of the river Pegu.

RIVERS.—The chief river is the Irrawady, which probably passes by Moguang and Bamoo, and thence by Ummerapoora and Prome towards the sea, which it joins by many mouths, after a comparative course of 1200 miles. The Thaluan enters the sea near Martaban. The length of its course exceeds that of the Irrawady, though not being fed by so many streams it cannot equal it in size.

RELIGION.—The Birmans follow the worship of Hindostan, not as votaries of Brahma, but as disciples of Boodh. They believe in the transmigration of souls, and that mercy is the chief attribute of the divinity.

GOVERNMENT.—The form of government is despotic, yet the king consults a council of ancient nobles. There are no hereditary dignities nor employments.

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## MALAYA OR MALACCA.

THE peninsula appended to the Birman territories on the south, is styled Malaya or Malacca.

EXTENT.—The northern limits are not strictly defined; but Malacca is about 80° or 560 miles in length, by about 150 of medial breadth, a territory sufficiently ample for a powerful kingdom, if its native productions corresponded with its extent.

Divisions.—Malacca is represented as divided into the kingdom of Patani in the north, and that of Yohor or Jor, occupying the southern extremity of the peninsula, the chief towns being Batusaber, the capital, Linga, Bintam, and Carimon.

Cities.—The city of Malacca, which seems to have been founded by the Mahometans in the 13th century, was considered as situated in the southern kingdom of Yohor, and in the last century was supposed to contain 12,000 inhabitants, of which, however, only 3000 were included within the walls. The mean and disgraceful jealousy of the Dutch, who are now masters of the country, render the recent accounts of this city imperfect. The town of Patani was inhabited by Malays and Siamese; and the people were Mahometans, tributary to Siam.

The Malay history is full of enterprizes, which mark the desperate ferocity of these barbarians.

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Opposite to the coast of Malacca, though at a considerable distance, are the islands of Andaman and Nicobar. The great Andaman is about 140 miles in length, but not more than 20 in the greatest breadth, indented by deep bays which afford excellent harbours. A British settlement has recently been formed on this island, and some convicts have been sent thither from Bengal. The natives, who are as little civilized as any in the world, are about 2000, and have already profited by the example of the English industry.

The Nicobars are three; the largest being about five leagues in circumference. The inhabitants have the appearance of Tataric origin.

## SIAM.

Till the recent extension of the Birman Empire, the rich and flourishing monarchy of Siam was regarded as the chief state of exterior India.

Boundaries.—Some of the limits of the Siamese dominions are not accurately defined. On the west a chain of mountains seems to divide it from Pegu; to the south and east the ancient boundaries are fixed; the ocean and a chain of mountains dividing Siam from Laos and Cambodia. Thus the ancient idea may be retained, that this kingdom is a large vale, between two ridges of mountains.

Extent.—The length of the kingdom may be nearly 700 miles, but of this about one half is not above 70 miles in medial breadth.

Population.—The inhabitants, from actual enumeration, are said to be about two millions.

Divisions.—This kingdom is divided into ten provinces, which have each a particular governor.

Cities and Towns.—The capital city has been called Siam, but in the native language the name is Yuthia. It is situated in an isle formed by the river Meinam. Its condition since it has been delivered from the Birman conquest, has not been described. Other chief towns are Bankok, at the mouth of the Meinam; Louvo and Porselouc on its banks; and Osmo and others on the eastern coast of the gulph of Siam.

Rivers.—The grand river Meinam, a name which signifies, *the mother of waters*, reigns supreme among the Siamese streams. It is very

 deep

deep and rapid, always full, and said to be larger than the Elbe. The inhabitants suppose its source to be in the mountains, which give rise to the Ganges, and that it branches through Cambodia and Pegu.

MOUNTAINS.—The mountains which inclose this kingdom on the east and west may be called the Siamese chains, till the native names be ascertained. A small ridge also passes E. and W. not far to the N. of Yuthia.

RELIGION.—The religion of the Siamese resembles that of the Hindoos.

GOVERNMENT.—The government of Siam is despotic; and the sovereign, as among the Birmans, almost revered with divine honors. The succession to the crown is hereditary in the male line.

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The other states of exterior India are Laos, Cambodia, Siampa, Cochin-China, and Tunquin, countries unimportant in themselves, and concerning which the materials are imperfect.

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# HINDOSTAN.

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EXTENT.—This portion of Asia extends from Cape Comari or Comorin, in the S. to the mountains which form the northern boundary of Cashmir, that is, from about the 8th to the 35th degree of N. lat. nearly 1900 miles in length. From the river

river Araba, on the W. of the province of Sindi, to the mountains, which divide Bengal from Cassay and the Birman dominions, constitutes a breadth of 1600 miles.

BOUNDARIES.—The northern boundary of Hindostan generally consists of the southern ridges of the Tibetian Alps. On the N. E. of Bengal a similar ridge divides Hindostan from the small territory of Asam, which seems an independent state. On the west, towards Persia, other ranges and deserts constitute the frontier, till the southern separation ends in the river Araba. The other boundaries are supplied by the Indian Ocean and the Bay of Bengal, where the eastern extremity is limited by the little river Naaf.

DIVISIONS.—This country may properly be described under four division. The first is included between the mountains of Tibet and the river Ganges, and extends from the sources of the Chumbul on the W. to the easternmost boundary of Hindostan. This may be called the Gangetic part.

The portion watered by the Sindé or Indus, and its subsidiary streams, may in like manner be termed Sindetic Hindostan. The portion lying between these divisions and the river Kistna may be styled Interior or Central Hindostan.

The southern part, encompassed by the sea, except on the N. where the river Kistna forms the boundary, may be termed the Deccan, a native term implying the south, but in its original application including almost the whole of Hindostan. In this part is naturally included the island of Ceylon.

In a political view Hindostan may be considered as divided between three leading powers, the British, the Marattas, and the Nizam or Soubah

of the Deccan. To which may be added on the western side or Sindetic division, the Seiks, and the reigning prince, who holds the eastern division of Persia.

*Gangetic Hindostan; or the Countries on the Ganges.*

EXTENT.—This grand division of Hindostan extends from the eastern boundaries of Bengal, to the country of Sirhind, a length of about 1000 miles. The greatest breadth from the sources of the Chumbul to the mountains of Sewalik, may be about 450. On the W. of the province of Bengal, the breadth is only about 230.

DIVISIONS.—This division comprises the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, Allahabab, Oude, Agra, with part of Delhi and Agimere, and of Malwa in the south; most of them equal in celebrity to any in Hindostan.

Bengal, Bahar, Benares, and some other districts to the west, form the chief basis and centre of the English power. The British settlements here extend about 550 miles in length, by 300 in breadth, and are in themselves a powerful kingdom.

POPULATION.—The native population is computed at ten or eleven millions, exclusive of the English, whose number seems not to be authenticated.

CITIES and TOWNS.—The chief city of Bengal and of all the British possessions in Hindostan, is Calcutta. It is a very extensive and populous city, being supposed to contain at least 500,000 inhabitants. Calcutta is situated on the western arm of the Ganges, about 100 miles from the sea, and the river is navigable up to the town for the largest ships that visit India.

In the eastern part of the British possessions the most considerable town is Dacca, beyond the principal stream of the Ganges, but defended on the east by the Burrampooter. Dacca was once the capital of Bengal, and was succeeded by Moorshedabad, a modern city. Hoogley, or Ugli, is a small but ancient city, about 26 miles above Calcutta, and gives its name to the western branch of the Ganges.

Patna is the capital of the province of Bahar, situated about 400 miles N. W. of Calcutta. It is tolerably fortified and a place of considerable trade. Benares is a rich, populous, and compact city, on the northern bank of the Ganges, about 460 miles from Calcutta.

On leaving the British possessions, and proceeding towards the W. first occurs Allahabad, in the province of the same name, belonging to the nabob of Oude, a city of little consequence.

Lucknow is the present capital of Oude, having superseded Fyzabad, a city on the Gogra. At a considerable distance to the N. W. is Berilli, a small but noted town, near the northern frontier.

Agra, once the capital of the Mongul empire, and an extensive and magnificent city, has rapidly declined.

Near the confines of Sindetic Hindostan stands the celebrated city of Delhi, the Mahometan capital of India, of considerable antiquity. It is now in ruins; but there are many noble and splendid remains of palaces, with baths of marble. One of the quarters of the city has been very thinly inhabited since the dreadful massacre by Nadir Shah, in which 100,000 people are said to have perished.

*Sindetic Hindostan; or the Countries on the Sindé or Indus.*

EXTENT.—This part extends from the northern mountains of Cashmir, and the Hindoo Koh, in the north of Cabul, to the mouth of the Indus, a length of about 900 miles, by about 350 in medial breath.

DIVISIONS.—Besides part of the provinces of Delhi and Agimere, this portion of Hindostan contains the extensive province of Moultan, with Lahore, Cashmir, Cabul, the frontier region of Candahar, and that of Sindi, at the mouth of the Indus.

CITIES and TOWNS.—Agimere, which may be regarded as the most eastern city of this division, it little remarkable except for a strong fortress on a hill. The town of Sirhind is placed near the source of the river Caggar, the course of which is not ascertained.

Lahore, now the capital of the Seiks, was the residence of the first Mahometan conquerors, and including the suburbs, was supposed to be three leagues in length. From Lahore to Agra, nearly 500 miles, there was an avenue of shady trees.

Almost due N. from Lahore, at the supposed distance of 200 miles, stands Cashmir, the capital of the delightful province so called. The city extends about three miles on each side of the river Jalum, over which are four or five wooden bridges, and in some part of its breadth, which is irregular, occupies about two miles.

The city of Cabul is the capital of the dominions of the Persian Shah, and is esteemed a considerable city, in a romantic and healthy situation.

Ghizni is remarkable as the seat of the first Mahometan conquerors of Hindostan, whose empire

pire almost corresponds with the modern kingdom of Candahar. The city of that name is of small account, except as a noted pass from Persia into Hindostan.

Towards the north, on the Indus, is the small city and fortress of Attock, and about 170 miles to the south, near the junction of the Chunab with the Indus, is Moultan, the capital of the province, a city of little consequence except for its antiquity and cotton manufacture.

The last remarkable city on the Indus is Tatta, the capital of the province of Sindi. The manufactures in silk wool from Kerman, and in cotton, have greatly declined.

The Mahometan prince of Sindi is tributary to Candahar. On the east of the Indus, or in Panjab, the Seiks, a new religious sect, form the leading power; while on the west, and even as far as Cashmir, the dominions of a Persian Shah comprise all the provinces, with several on the east of Persia. His seat of empire is at Candahar.

### *Central Hindostan; or the Middle Provinces.*

This division is chiefly bounded by Gangetic Hindostan, on the north; and on the W. by the sandy desert, and the ocean. The southern limit is the Kistna, whilst the E. is bounded by the bay of Bengal.

EXTENT.– The length from Jigat point on the W. to Cape Palmiras on the E. is little less than 1200 miles, while the medial breadth is about 400.

DIVISIONS.—This district includes the province of Orissa, part of Golconda, Berar, Dowlatabad, Candeish, and Guzerat, with other districts of inferior name; and on the eastern shore are the British provinces of the Sircars.

CITIES

CITIES and TOWNS.—Amedabad, the chief city of Guzerat, is a considerable and well fortified place. Cambay, at the distance of more than 50 miles, may be called the sea port of this capital. It is itself a handsome city, and formerly of great trade; but its harbour is now impeded, and its commerce is transferred to Surat, the celebrated port, whence the Mahometans of India embarked on their pilgrimage to Mecca. The harbour is small and incommodious; yet it is the only one on the western coast in which ships can be secure during the Monsoon rains from May to September.

Bombay, at a considerable distance to the S. is a well known English settlement, on a small island about seven miles in length, containing a very strong, capacious fortress, a large city, a dock yard, and a maritime arsenal. In the same sound are the isles of Salsett and Elephanta.

Towards the E. in the province of Candeish, first occurs the city of Burhampour, of little consequence. Ellichpour is the chief city of Berar. Nagpour is the capital of the eastern division of the Maratta empire, as Poona is of the western, being a modern city of small size.

On returning towards the W. Aurungabad, a modern city, derives its name from Aurungzeb, in whose time it was the capital of the Deccan. It was afterwards the metropolis of the Nizam's territory, till the preference was given to Hydrabad. Near this city is Dowlatabad, which gives name to this province; it has a singular fortress on a peaked rock. This country was formerly the seat of a great power, and the western coasts were much frequented by foreign merchants of all nations; but the harbours have since been impeded, and commerce has declined, being chiefly transferred to the Ganges.

*Southern*

*Southern division of Hindostan.*

EXTENT.—This part, which may properly be called the Deccan or South, is bounded by the Kistna, and extends from the latitude of Bombay to the extreme point of Cape Comorin, about 830 miles in length, and about 350 of medial breadth.

DIVISIONS.—The Deccan contains nearly the whole of the province of Visiapour, and the most important part of Golconda, the central kingdom of Mysore, the long eastern province of Carnada, or the Carnatic, the principalities of Tanjore, Travancore, and other districts.

The British power extends over wide provinces in the S. and W. of Mysore, and Seringapatam the capital, is also in possession of the English, making their territories in this part of Hindostan little inferior in extent and consequence to those on the Ganges.

CITIES and TOWNS.—The important city of Seringapatam is situated in an isle, surrounded by the river Caveri. The length of the isle is about four miles, and the breadth about a mile and a half, the western side being allotted to the fortress.

In this central territory the English possess many considerable towns, as Salem and Attore in the east; Dindigul, Coimbetore, and Palicaud on the S. and on the western coast, Paniany, Ferokabad, Calicut, now nearly deserted, Tellicherri, Mangalore, and Carwar, within 46 miles of the Portuguese settlement of Goa; while on the S. they approach within the like distance of Cochin. In the Carnatic they have long held Madras, which has a strong fortress, and includes a regular and well built city of modern date.

Not far from the western settlement at Madras stands Arcot, esteemed the capital of the Carnatic,

natic. The Navab or Nabob often resides at Madras. Tranquebar is a noted Danish settlement in the kingdom of Tanjore, which embraces the wide Delta of the Caveri. Pondicherri was the principal settlement of the French, and before the war of 1756, was a large and beautiful city.

On the western or Malabar coast stands Cochin, surrounded on the east by a creek of the sea, which receives several streams; but this seemingly ample harbour is obstructed by a dangerous bar.

To the N. of the British territories first occurs Goa, formerly a capital settlement of the Portuguese, and a noted seat of their inquisition. The harbour is ranked among the first in India.

Passing the mountainous ridge first occurs Poona, the capital of the western empire of the Marattas; but a mean defenceless city, the archives of the government and the chief seat of power being at Poorunder, a fortress about 18 miles to the S. E. Visapour, also called Bejapour, is a considerable city. In the vicinity are celebrated diamond mines.

Hydrabad is the metropolis of the Nizam's territory, and particularly of the celebrated province of Golconda, but seems otherwise of little consequence.

Mountains.—The mountains chiefly celebrated by the Hindoos are a chain of the Tibetian Alps, covered with perpetual snow. Hence they are called Himmala, from a word denoting snow. The Indian ranges of mountains are far inferior in height to the Himmala, and the names of those to the W. of the Indus are little known. Many of the chains in other districts are imperfectly delineated, and the descriptions equally uncertain. The Gauts, peculiarly so called, are

ranges

ranges which run along the western and eastern coasts of the Deccan. By the natives the western range is called the mountains of Sukhien.

These chains rise abruptly on each side, but particularly on the W. forming as it were enormous walls, supporting a high terrace in the middle. This elevated tract passing through a great part of the Marratta territories to the N. of Mysore, is termed in general the Balla-Gaut, while low passes are called Payen-Gaut. Opposite to Paniany, on the western coast, there is a break or interruption of the mountains, about sixteen miles in breadth, chiefly occupied by a forest; exclusive of this gap, the mountains of Sukhien extend from Cape Comorin to Surat, at the distance of from 40 to 70 miles from the shore.

The Gauts, or the mountains of Malabar and Coromandel, supporting the high table land in the centre, intercept the great mass of clouds; and the alternate S. W. and N. E. winds called the Monsoons, occasion a rainy season on one side of the mountain only, that is on the windward side. From October to April the Monsoon is from the N. E. with which commences the rainy season on the coast of Coromandel; and from May to September it is in an opposite direction, and the rain is confined to the coast of Malabar. In general March, April, May, and June are dry months.

Rivers.—The Ganges must be considered as the sovereign of the Hindoo rivers. Its course may be estimated at 1400 miles; but its source yet remains a curious object of investigation. The noted Gangoutra, or Cow's mouth, is laid down in lat. 33°. This is a celebrated cataract, where the Ganges is said to pass through a vast cavern in a mountain, falling into a large basin,

 which

which it has worn in the rock. At Hurdwar, 280 miles to the S. the Ganges enters the wide plains of Hindostan, and pursues a S. E. direction by the ancient city of Canoge, by Allahabad, Benares, Patna, &c. till dividing into many grand and capacious mouths, it forms an extensive Delta at its egress into the gulph of Bengal. On the western outlet, called the Hoogley, stands Calcutta, the capital of British Hindostan. This and the most eastern, which receives the Burrampooter, are the widest and most important branches.

The chief tributary streams, which swell the Ganges, are the Gagra, also called Sarjoo; the Jumna or Yumena, which receives the Chumbul and the Betwa; and lastly the Soan.

The next important river, which indeed may be called the rival of the Ganges, is the Burrampooter, being the Sanpoo of the Tibetans. It runs for four hundred miles through the British territory, and for the last 60 miles before its junction with the Ganges, is four or five miles wide. On their union below Luckipour, they form a body of fresh water, resembling a gulph of the sea, interspersed with islands, some of which rival in size and fertility our isle of Wight. In the mouths of the Ganges, and the Megna, or Burrampoot, the bore or sudden influx of the tide, will rise instantaneously from five to twelve feet in height. The course of the Burrampoot is supposed to be equal to the Ganges. The sources of these great rivers are stated to be very near, and they join in their termination yet they separate to the distance of more than a thousand miles.

The Indus and its tributary streams, form the next celebrated river. By the natives it is called Sindé: it is also called Nilab, or the Blue river.

Its source, like that of the Ganges, is unknown; but probably it takes its rise from the eastern side of the Belur Tag, or Cloudy mountains. Its comparative course may be about 1000 miles, and it forms a Delta in the province of Sindi, entering by many mouths into the Indian sea. It is uncertain whether the Caggar, a considerable river to the east, join the Sindé, or fall into the gulph of Cutch.

The Godaveri, the most important stream of Central Hindostan, rises in the western Gauts, from several sources, about 70 miles to the N. E. of Bombay. About 90 miles from its egress into the sea, the Godaveri receives a large river, the Bain Gonga, its course being about 400 miles, while that of the Godaveri may be about 700. From the S. it receives a large circuitous river, called the Manzora, which passes by Bedar.

Next in consequence is the Nerbudda, which may be called a solitary river, as it receives so few contributions. Its course is almost due west, and about equal to that of the Godaveri.

The Deccan, or southernmost part of Hindostan is considered as bounded by the Kistna and its tributary streams. This sacred river rises at Balisur in the chain of Sukhien, not far to the south of Poona, and forms a Delta at Masulipatam, after a comparative course of about 500 miles. The richest diamond mines in the world are in the neighbouring hills to the north.

The Toombuddra is a considerable river, which joins the Kistna from the south, on the banks of which are many populous provinces and flourishing towns.

To the south of Kistna appears the Caveri, another large and sacred stream, which passes by Seringapatam, and forms a wider delta than any

other southern river, when it enters the sea after a course of about 300 miles.

RELIGION.—The religion of the Hindoos is artfully interwoven with the common offices of life; and the different casts are supposed to originate from Brahma, the immediate agent of creation under the supreme power. These are four; the first includes the Brahmins or priests; the second, the military or soldiers; the third consists of persons employed in agriculture; and the fourth comprises those, who are doomed to menial offices and slavery. The individuals of any of these casts will not associate with those of an inferior one.

GOVERNMENT.—Hindostan is now divided into many governments. That of Bengal is vested in a governor general and supreme council, consisting of a president and four counsellors, who are to direct all affairs, civil and military, in the kingdoms of Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa; and to controul the inferior governments of Madras, on the east; Bombay, on the west; and Bencoolen, the island of Sumatra. The Hindoos are governed by their own laws.

## ISLAND OF CEYLON.

EXTENT.—This island approaches in size to that of Ireland, being generally supposed to be about 260 miles in length, by about 150 in breadth. In the Hindoo language it is called Lanca, and the people are undoubtedly of Hindoo origin.

TOWNS.—The native town Kandi, in the centre of the isle, seems to be of small size and consequence.

consequence. The chief town of the Portuguese, Dutch, and English possessions is Colombo, a handsome place, and well fortified. Nigombo is a fortress a few miles to the N.

The northern parts of Ceylon are chiefly left to the natives, but the town of Jafnapatam, or Jafna, was a Dutch settlement in a detached isle. On pursuing the shore towards the east, the harbour of Trincomali opens at the mouth of the Mowil Ganga. Batacola is an inferior harbour on the same side.

The southern side of Ceylon has been chiefly visited. Matura was a Dutch factory near the promontory called Dondra, where excellent kinds of cinnamon are collected, and varieties of precious stones abound in the vicinity.

MOUNTAINS.—The chain or chains of mountains run N. and S. and are peculiarly rich in precious stones; among which are the genuine ruby, sapphire, and Topaz. The finest rock chrystals are found here in abundance, and the true emerald, which is commonly esteemed peculiar to Peru.

RIVERS.—There are five considerable rivers in the island, the chief of which is the Mowil Ganga, on which stands the modern Kandi, one of the royal palaces being on an isle in this river, where the monarch keeps a treasure of gems.

FISHERY.—The grand pearl fishery is carried on in the gulph of Manar, near Condatchey, a miserable place in a sandy district. It begins about the middle of February, and continues till about the middle of April. The divers are chiefly Christians or Moslems, who remain under water about two minutes, each bringing up about 100 oysters in his net. The yellow or gold coloured pearls are most esteemed by the natives.

RELIGION.—The religion of Ceylon is the ancient worship of Boodh, which is supposed to have originated in this island, and thence to have spread to ancient Hindostan, to exterior India, to Tibet, and even to China and Japan.

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The islands called LACADIVES and MALDIVES are of little consequence. The former are very numerous, and are governed by a chief called Atoll. The trade is in cowrie shells, cocoa nuts, and fish. The latter islands form a more extended group, though only thirty in number. They also trade in cocoa nuts and fish; and ambergris is often found floating in the vicinity.

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# PERSIA.

THE ancient and powerful monarchy of Persia is divided into two parts, the eastern and the western, including the provinces near the Caspian, which being secured by mountains and fastnesses, have asserted a kind of independence.

EXTENT.—From the mountains and deserts, which, with the river Araba, constitute the eastern frontier, to the western mountains of Elwend, Persia extends more than 1200 miles in length, and from the deserts near the sea of Aral in the N. to those on the Indian sea, in the S. the breadth is about 1000 miles.

DIVISIONS.—It is divided into thirteen provinces, the limits of which often consist of rivers and ranges of mountains.

1. Georgia,

1. Georgia, or more properly Gurgustan, including Daghistan and Shirvan, and constituting the Albania of the ancients.

2. Erivan: a large portion of ancient Armenia, between the river Kur, on the N. and the Aras or Araxes, on the S.

3. Aderbijan, the Atropatena of the ancients, enclosed by mountains, and bounded by those of Elwend, on the S.

4. Ghilan, on the S. W. of the Caspian, and synonymous with the ancient Gela.

5. Mazendran appears on the southern shores of the Caspian, encircled by a lofty branch of the Caucasian mountains.

6. On the western frontier occurs Irac Ajemi, corresponding with the ancient Ecbatana. In the S. of this province is Ispahan, the modern capital of Persia.

7. Chosistan, extending to the river Tigris; but the capital Bussora or Basra, remains subject to the Turks. This province corresponds with the ancient Susiana.

8. The celebrated province of Fars, Persis, or Persia proper, contains the beautiful city of Shiraz, with Istakar, and the ruins of Persepolis.

9. Kerman, the ancient Carmania.

10. Laristan is a small province on the Persian gulph, to the S. E. of Fars, of which some regard it as a part.

11. To the E. of Kerman is the large province of Mekran, which extends to the Indian deserts, and is the ancient Gadrustan or Gedrosia.

12. Segistan, another wide frontier province towards India, was chiefly the Arachosia and Saranga of antiquity.

13. The grand and terminating division of modern Persia in the N. E. is Corasan, bounded by the Gihon or Oxus on the N. E. and on the S. by

by the lake of Zeré, or Zurra, the grand Aria Palus of antiquity.

Exclusive of Asiatic Turkey on the W. the ancient Persian empire comprised Bactriana or Balk, which may be termed a wide and well watered kingdom, between 300 and 400 miles square; and on the other side of the Oxus, Sogdiana, or the country on the river Sogd, which passes modern Samarcand.

POPULATION.– The present state of population cannot be estimated, but perhaps it little exceeds that of Asiatic Turkey, which has been computed at ten millions. Of these perhaps six millions belong to western Persia; while the other four contribute to the population of the kingdom of Candahar.

CITIES.—The capital city of modern Persia is Ispahan. Including the suburbs its circuit has been computed at about 24 miles, and the inhabitants at 600,000. It stands on the small river Zenderud: the suburbs are very large, and are possessed by the Armenians. This capital is now greatly reduced, having been taken and plundered by the Afgans.

Shiraz, the capital of Faristan or Persis, is situated in a fertile valley, bounded on all sides by lofty mountains. The circuit of the city is about four miles, surrounded with a wall 25 feet high and ten thick, having round towers at the distance of 80 paces.

Teffliz, the capital of Georgia, is a large and populous town, but meanly built, rising from the river Kur along the side of a hill. It is supposed to contain 20,000 inhabitants, more than half being Armenians.

Derbent was formerly a place of noted strength on the Caspian, but now belongs to Russia.

Westward

Westward on the Turkish frontier is Erivan, a city of considerable extent, and the capital of Persian Armenia, but the houses are meanly built. The celebrated mount Ararat, which may be regarded as a kind of frontier between the Turkish and Persian dominions, rises about 30 miles to the S. of Erivan. There are many other considerable cities, once celebrated for their commerce and manufactures, which are now on the decline.

MOUNTAINS.—Persia is distinguished as a mountainous country. The Caucasian chain extends to the W. of Ghilan, and S. of Mazendran, till it expires on the S. E. of the Caspian sea.

The southernmost chain of great height is described as running parallel with the Persian gulph, at about the distance of 50 miles.

A third range of very great height seems to continue in the same direction with the last, to the S. of the lake of Urmia, where it is connected with the Caucasian ridge. A parallel chain on the W. called Aiagha Tag, by the Turks, is supposed to have separated the ancient kingdom of Assyria from Media.

Hetzardara, or the thousand mountains, form a branch on the N. of Fars, and one part of it, which gives rise to the river of Ispahan, is called Koh Zerdeh, or the yellow mountain. In the E. of Segistan, is a ridge N. and S. called Soliman Koh, or the mountains of Soliman.

RIVERS.—Several rivers of this country, which have their source in the neighbouring mountains, fall into the Caspian sea, or into the Persian gulph. Among the former are the Gihon or Amu, rather belonging to Independent Tatary; and farther to the N. the large river Aras, the ancient Araxes, which falls into the Kur or Cyrus,

rus, both rising in the Caucasian mountains, and pursuing a course of extreme rapidity.

Most of the central rivers of Persia are soon lost in sandy deserts. Of this description is the Zenderud, which rises in the western chain of Elwend, and passes by Ispahan. A more celebrated river is the Bundamir, supposed to be the ancient Araxes. It flows into a salt lake called Baktegan, and which also receives a considerable stream from the N. E. called the Kuren. Between these two rivers, a branch of the mountains of Elwend extends S. E. on the western side of which stand the ruins of Persepolis.

The largest inland river is the Hinmend, of the province of Segistan, which rises from two widely separated sources. After the junction of these streams this river pursues a westerly course, and is said to divide into many branches, which are lost in the central deserts of Persia. Other geographers suppose, that the Hinmend passes by Zarang into the sea of Zereh.

Lakes.—Among the lakes of Persia the most considerable is the Aria Palus of antiquity. This large lake is in the western part of the province of Segistan, and is called the lake of Zereh, or the sea of Durra. The length is thirty leagues, and the breadth a day's journey. The water is fresh and full of fish.

The salt lake of Baktegan, about 50 miles S. of Shiraz, is represented as about 40 miles in length, by about ten.

Far to the N. W. appears the large lake of Urmia, so called from a town near its southern extremity. It is about fifty miles in length, by about half the breadth. It is considerably impregnated with salt, and the neighbouring mountains were remarkable as the seats of the

Assassins.

Assassins. The lake of Erivan, about 120 miles to the N. is about 25 leagues in circumference, with a small isle in the middle.

Religion.—The religion of Persia is the Mahometan, which was introduced by the sword, and followed by its usual effects, the destruction and depopulation of the country. Of the Parsees, or ancient worshippers of fire, there are no remains, except a few visitors of the fiery eruptions near Baku, on the western shores of the Caspian.

Government.—The government of Persia, like that of all other Oriental states, appears to have been always despotic; but its administration in eastern Persia, or the kingdom of Candahar, appears to be mild.

# INDEPENDENT TATARY.

Extent.—The extent of the territory possessed by the Tataric tribes, which are regarded as independent of the great neighbouring powers, may be measured from the Caspian sea to the mountains of Belur, a space of 870 miles. From the mountains of Gaur, on the S. to the Russian boundaries on the north of the desert of Issim is nearly 1500 miles.

About one half of Independent Tatary is occupied by the Kirgusses, in the N. and the Usbeks, in the S.

### *Kirgusses.*

The great stepp or desert of Issim divides the Kirgusses from Siberia. This stepp is intersected by

by a river of the same name, and there are other streams which either flow into it or fall into extensive lakes. This wide plain must not therefore be considered as a mere desert, destitute of all vegetation.

DIVISIONS.—The Kirgusses are supposed to be so called from the founder of their hord, and have, from time immemorial, been classed under three divisions, the Great, the Middle, and the Less. The Great hord, defended by mountains on the S. and E. asserted their independence in repeated contests with the Kalmuks of Soongaria. The Middle and Little hords have acknowledged the Russian sovereignty; but the subjection is merely nominal.

This portion was anciently called Western Turkistan; the capital being Taraz, on a stream, which flows into the Sirr or Sihon, and which was also sometimes denominated Turkistan, from the name of the country.

POPULATION.—The population of these hords is estimated at 500,000.

Ilak and Shash, the most northern provinces on the Sihon, are followed by Fergana, and a district called Ozrushna, round a town of the same name. Divided from these provinces, the kingdom of Kharizm, formerly so powerful as to oppose the great Zingis, has gradually yielded to the encroaching desert.

To the S. of the range of Ak Tau, appears the fertile region of Sogd, the ancient Sogdiana, with its capital Samarcand. On the S. the provinces of Balk, Kilan, Tokarestan, and Gaur terminate the bounds of Western Tatary.

### *Kharism.*

In general Kharism, on the W. is not considered as part of great Bucharia, but this latter appellation

appellation must be considered as embracing the whole extent, from the mountains of Argun and the sources of the river Ilak, to the confines of Hindostan.

EXTENT.—Kharism extends from the Gihon or Amu, to the Caspian sea, bounded on the N. and S. by wide deserts. This country is about 350 miles in length and breadth; and was once a powerful kingdom. At present this state is almost restricted to the district of Khiva, the circuit of which may be performed on horseback in three days; but there are five walled cities or towns. Khiva the chief of them, is said to stand at the distance of seventeen days journey from the Caspian sea, and from Orenburg thirty three, estimating each day at about 27 miles. It occupies a considerable space, and commands a prospect of the adjacent plains, which the industry of the inhabitants has rendered very fertile.

## *Great Bucharia.*

By far the most important part of Independent Tatary is comprised under the name of Great Bucharia, generally supposed to have originated from the city of Bokhara.

EXTENT.—It extends more than 700 miles in length, from N. to S. by a medial breadth, if Fergana be included, of about 350; thus rather exceeding Great Britain in size; but much inferior to the country called Little Bucharia.

BOUNDARIES.—On the N. it is bounded by the mountains of Argun; on the western side, the river Amu, and various extensive deserts divide Bucharia from Kharism and Corasan. On the S. and E. the mountains of Gaur, the Hindoo Koh, and the chain of Belur, are perpetual barriers.

CITIES.—The chief city is Samarcand, on the southern bank of the river Sogd, which after

washing the walls of Bokhara, at the distance of 100 miles, passes through a considerable lake, and is supposed to join the Oxus or Amu. Bokhara has repeatedly contested the metropolitan dignity with Samarkand. It stands on a rising ground, and is a large and populous city.

Balk is a distinguished city on the river Dehash, which flows into the Amu, from the southern mountains of Gaur. It is the chief seat of trade between Bucharia and Hindostan. The people are the most civilized of all the Tatars, and beautiful silks are prepared from the product of the country.

Zouf, which is also called Gaur, from the province of which it is the capital, is now subject to the kingdom of Candahar.

Anderab, near a pass in the mountains of Hindoo Koh, is the chief city of Tokarestan; and not far to the N. stands Badakshan, on the river Amu, the capital of a country so called. It is computed at sixteen days journey from Bokhara.

## *Little Bucharia.*

BOUNDARIES.—The southern boundaries and provinces of Little Bucharia are imperfectly known, but the western and northern parts are described with more accuracy. It is separated from Hami or Camil, which is a detached province, under the protection of China, by the desert of Cobi; and from Soongaria, on the N. by the mountains of Alak, which afford some protection from the piercing cold to the cities and towns of Little Bucharia, in all its features, one of the most singular regions of the world.

EXTENT.—The extent of Little Bucharia, from the confines of Hami to the mountains of Belur, is more than 1000 miles, and the breadth, from the

the mountains of Tibet to those of Alak, is more than 500.

POPULATION.—The population is supposed to be inconsiderable, and to consist chiefly of Bucharians, though the country was conquered by the Kalmuks.

CITIES.—The chief towns are Cashgar and Yarkhand, followed towards the N. E. by Axu or Aksu; Chialish, also called Yulduz, and by the Turks Karashar or the black city; and Turfan.

Cashgar was formerly a remarkable town, giving name to a considerable kingdom, the limits of which nearly corresponded with those of Little Bucharia. This town, though fallen from its ancient splendour, still retains some commerce.

Yarkand stands on a river of the same name, which after a long easterly course, falls into the lake of Lop.

Turfan, the capital of a detached principality, is a considerable town, which used to be frequented by the merchants passing from Persia to China.

Hami or Chamil gives name to a small district in the immense desert of Cobi, and is said to be a small but populous place.

MOUNTAINS.—The principal mountains are those of Belur, covered with perpetual snow. This chain is the ancient Imaus, proceeding N. and S. and is continued by the mountains of Alak, on the N. of Little Bucharia, which join the great Bogdo, the highest mountain in Central Asia. On the S. the Belur seems more intimately connected with the Hindoo Koh than with the northern ridges of Tibet. The mountains of Gaur, with those of Great Bucharia, form an extension of this chain, and the mountains of Argun unite with those of Kara Tau; and like

the Ak Tau in the S. appear a branch detached from the Belur.

RIVERS.—The chief rivers of Independent Tatary are the Amu, and the Sirr, or river of Shash. The former is the ancient Oxus, and near its source is called the Harrat; oriental geographers also term it the Gihoon, and the Sirr the Sihoon.

The Amu rises in the mountains of Belur; after being joined by the Dehash or river of Balk, it falls into the sea of Aral, which in all ages appears to have been its chief receptacle. The whole course of this noble river surpasses that of the Tigris, being probably not less than 900 miles.

The Sirr also rises in the mountains of Belur, and falls into the eastern side of the sea of Aral, after a course of 550 miles. In the country possessed by the Kirgusses are also considerable streams, particularly the Issim.

LAKES.—The most considerable lake is the sea of Aral, mentioned in the general view of Asia. The lake Tengis, Balcash, or Palkati is nearly 140 miles in length, by half the breadth; but properly belongs to the Kalmuks, subject to China.

RELIGION.—The religion of the Usbeks and Bucharians is the Mahometan, of the Sunni sect, for though the Kalmuk conquerors of Little Bucharia retained their idolatry, they were tolerant.

GOVERNMENT.—The government of the Khans is despotic and independent of any other power, except the Mulla Bashi, or high priest.

ARABIA.

# ARABIA.

THE last remaining country of the wide Asiatic continent is Arabia, a region more highly celebrated than precisely known.

DIVISIONS.—By the ancients it was divided into three unequal portions; Petræa or the Stoney, a small province on the north of the Red sea, between Egypt and Palestine, so called from its sterile rocks and mountains, the most remarkable of which is Sinai: Arabia Deserta was the eastern part; while Arabia the Happy comprised the south-western part, on the shores of the Red sea.

BOUNDARIES.—The boundaries on the S. and W. are marked by the Red sea or Arabian gulph, and the Indian ocean; while the Persian gulph extends a considerable way to the E. and this boundary is continued by the deserts to the west of the Euphrates. The northern limits are less strongly marked; but rise to an angle about an hundred miles to the E. of Palmyra, which is not included in Arabia. Thence the line proceeds to the south-eastern angle of the Mediterranean, and forms the northern boundary of Arabia Petræa.

EXTENT.—From the cape of Babelmandeb to the extreme angle on the Euphrates, the length is not less than 1800 miles, while the medial breadth is about 800.

The central part of Arabia is filled with the vast province, or rather desert, of Neged, occupying almost the whole country, except a few

small portions towards the shores, as Hejaz on the Red sea; Yemen, on the S. towards the straits of Babelmandeb; Hadramaut, on the shores of the Indian ocean; Omon, on the S. of the Persian gulph; and Lahsa, or Hajar, on its western shores.

CITIES.——The most celebrated cities are Mecca and Medina. The former was known to the Greeks under the name of Macoraba. It is placed almost at the equal distance of a month's journey from Yemen on the right hand, and Syria on the left. The Koreshites, who reigned in Mecca, were conspicuous among the Arabian tribes, and their position was favourable to the enterprises of trade, which diffused plenty and riches in the streets of Mecca, and the noblest of her sons united the love of arms with the profession of merchandize. The government of this holy city is vested in a sheref, who is a temporal prince.

Medina stands about 200 miles N. of Mecca, at about a day's journey from the shores of the Red sea. It is a small town, and only remarkable for the tomb of Mahomet.

Sana or Saana, in Yemen, is reputed the chief city of Arabia. It is not above four miles in circuit, and part of this small space is occupied by gardens. Judda or Jedda, is the sea-port of Mecca.

The town of Mocha is now chiefly frequented on account of its coffee, by English vessels from Hindostan and the Indies.

Rostak is the capital of Omon; Maskat, however, is the most considerable town, and best known to Europeans, having an excellent harbour, and being from early times the staple of trade between Arabia, Persia, and the Indies. It is visited by English ships from Hindostan.

MOUNTAINS.

MOUNTAINS.—The chief range of mountains seems to proceed in the direction of the Red sea; not more than 30 miles distant towards the N. but in the S. sometimes about 150; a circumstance, which imparts extent and fertility to Yemen.

The hills of Omon seem to be a continuation of those on the other side of the Persian gulph. In the country of Seger, commonly ascribed to Hadramaut, there is a range of hills remarkable for the product of frankincense.

RIVERS.—The Euphrates may aptly be considered as an Arabian river; but the rivers of Arabia Proper are merely torrents, which descend from the mountains during the rains, and for a short period afterwards.

LAKES.—One or two small saline lakes occur in situations encircled with hills.

RELIGION.—The Christian religion was not unknown before the appearance of Mahomet, whose system was soon diffused through Arabia; but even the Mahometans are divided into sects.

GOVERNMENT.—The country is governed by numerous Imans and Sheiks: in each district there is also a Cadi, who, like those in Turkey, is judge of ecclesiastic and civil affairs.

The Arabians are a most sagacious and intelligent race of men, remarkable also for spirit and valour, whose country alone has never been subdued by any invader.

## ARABIAN ISLES.

BESIDES several islands of little consequence, there are two in the Arabian gulph, which deserve particular notice.

SOCOTRA, about 240 miles from the southern coast of Arabia, appears in all ages to have belonged to that country, and to have been celebrated for the production of aloes, still esteemed superior to any other. The inhabitants are clearly of Arabian extract.

The isle of BAHRIN is in the Persian gulph, near the Arabian coast, and remarkable for the great pearl fishery in its neighbourhood. The name signifies two seas, and is probably an absurd modern appellation. The Arabs of Lahsa call the large island Aual, in which there is a fortified town. The inhabitants of this and of the smaller isles are Arabs of the Chinese persuasion.

## ASIATIC ISLANDS.

THE seas in the neighbourhood of this continent are distinguished by numerous and important islands, which, according to their proximity to each other, may be classed under the following arrangement; 1. The isles of Sunda, or the Sumatran chain. 2. Borneo. 3. The Manillas. 4. The Celebezian isles. 5. The Spice islands.

The

*The isles of Sunda, or the Sumatran chain.*

This division comprises Sumatra, Java, Balli, Lombok, Sumbava, Florez, and Timor, with several isles of less note in their vicinity.

SUMATRA is an island of great extent, being not less than 950 miles in length, by about 200 in breadth. The English settlement of Bencoolen is in the south-eastern part of the island.

MOUNTAINS.—A chain of mountains runs through the whole isle, the ranges in many parts being double and treble; but generally nearer to the western coast, where they approach within twenty miles of the sea. Mount Ophir, immediately under the equinoctial line, is nearly 14,000 feet above the sea, yielding only about 2000 feet to Mount Blanc. There are several volcanic mountains in Sumatra, as in most of the other islands of the oriental Archipelago, but eruptions are not frequent. On the W. between the mountains and the sea, there are large swamps; but even here the face of the country is remarkably broken and uneven.

RIVERS – There are many rivers on the western coast, but commonly impeded by sand banks, so as to present few means of navigation.

The year has two divisions, called the rainy and the dry monsoons; the S. E. or dry, beginning about May and ending with September; the N. W. or wet, beginning in November and ending about March, the intermediate months being variable. The inland inhabitants of the mountains use fires to dispel the morning cold; yet frost, snow, and hail are unknown. Thunder and lightning are frequent.

The sea coast is occupied by Malays, who seem to be recent settlers. The kingdom of Acheen, in the north-western extremity of the island, carries

carries on a considerable trade with the coast of Coromandel. The natives are stouter, taller, and of a darker complexion than the other Sumatrans.

RELIGION.—The Christian religion is unknown in Sumatra, the missionaries having neglected this large island.

GOVERNMENT.—Even the rudest tribes of Sumatra, and the other Asiatic isles, display a certain degree of civilization. The Panjeran or prince presides over many magistrates; but his government is limited. Laws are unknown, the chiefs rendering judgment according to custom.

Several small isles encompass Sumatra. Banca is particularly celebrated for its tin.

JAVA is not only an extensive island about 650 miles in length, by about 100 of medial breadth; but is remarkable for the city of Batavia, the celebrated capital of the Dutch possessions. It is strongly fortified with walls, and a citadel towards the sea. This isle, like the former, abounds with forests, and presents an enchanting verdure. It seems also intersected by a ridge of mountains, pervading its length.

Java is divided into three or four principalities. The products resemble those of Sumatra; but the existence of the poison tree, as described by Dr. Darwin, appears to be completely fabulous.

The island of BALLI is only remarkable for furnishing slaves, cotton yarn, &c.

LOMBOK, SUMBAVA, and FLOREZ, are little known. TIMOR was discovered by the companions of Magalhaens, who found in it alone the white sandal wood. Timor is nearly 200 miles in length, by 60 in breadth. The Dutch regard this isle as a kind of barrier of the spice trade. The inhabitants are esteemed the bravest in the oriental Archipelago.

*Borneo.*

*Borneo.*

This island is reputed the largest in the world, even after the recent discovery of New Holland, which may properly be regarded as a new continent. Borneo is about 900 miles in length, by 600 at its greatest breadth.

The interior parts of the island are little known, though a considerable river flows from the centre almost due south, forming the harbour of Bender Masseen.

Lofty mountains are said to rise in the middle of the island; many are volcanic, and often occasion tremendous earthquakes.

The coasts are held by Malays, Moors, Macassars from Celebez, and even Japanese. The natives are called Biajos. These Biajos come down the great river Banjar to the port of Masseen in rude boats, with gold dust and other articles, the Moors, called Banjareens, being the factors.

The town called Borneo, on the N. W. consists of about three thousand houses, floating upon rafts, as is usual on the shores of this island. It was greatly frequented by the Chinese, who probably continue to be the chief traders to Borneo.

*The Manillas, or Philippine islands.*

This large group was discovered by Magalhaens, and were afterwards called the Philippines, in honour of the infamous tyrant Philip II. of Spain.

LUZON is the largest and most important of these isles, being nearly 500 miles in length, by about 100 of medial breadth.

There

There are many lakes in the island, the most considerable being that which gives source to the river of Manilla.

Several volcanoes occur, and earthquakes are not uncommon.

The city of Manilla is well built and fortified; but a third part is occupied by convents: the number of christian inhabitants, is computed at 12,000. Between this city and Acapulco, nearly in the same parallel on the W. of Mexico, a celebrated commerce was conducted, through a space of more than one third of the circumference of the globe.

The Manilla ships or galleons were formerly of great size, but lately smaller vessels have been used.

Next in size is MINDANAO, a beautiful and fertile island; the chief Spanish settlement being at Sambuang, in the S. W. This island is in general mountainous.

The Lano is a large inland lake, about 60 miles in circumference.

In the S. there is a volcano of constant eruption, which serves as a sea mark.

There are several other isles of inferior consequence, and smaller ones, which might be counted by hundreds.

In general this grand and extensive group presents many volcanic appearances. Among vegetables the bread fruit must not be forgotten, which first appears on the eastern coasts of Sumatra, and thence extends its benefits through innumerable islands in the Indian and Pacific oceans.

*The Celebezean isles.*

CELEBEZ is a large and irregular island, more than 600 miles in length, but divided into various

portions

portions by immense bays, so that the breadth is commonly not above 60 miles. This island is lofty and mountainous, especially towards the centre, and there are several active volcanoes.

Rivers abound, rising in the high mountains, and falling down vast rocks, amidst a sylvan scene of lofty and singular trees.

The natives are commonly called Macassars. Their houses are raised on pillars, on account of the rainy season, or western monsoon, from November till March. This large island, like Borneo, has been little explored. Rice is said to be cultivated in great abundance.

Around Celebez are many other islands, the smallest of which are mostly inhabited. The whole group is full of poisonous trees and plants, though the accounts of the Upas, ascribed to Java, where it is little known, are exaggerated.

### *The Spice Islands, including the Moluccas.*

The MOLUCCAS strictly so termed, are only five small islands on the W. of Gilolo; but as the kings of the Moluccas have possessed territory in Gilolo and other adjacent isles, the appellation has been extended.

The chief of the Spice islands are Gilolo, Ceram, Bouro, Mortay, Oubi, Mysol, the Moluccas properly so called, Amboyna, and the group of Banda.

GILOLO is of considerable extent, but its form is irregular, like that of Celebez. The length is about 230 miles, the breadth of each limb is seldom above 40. The shores are low: the interior rises to high peaks. One of the chief towns is Tatanay, situated on a small promontory of the eastern limb, accessible only by ladders. The sultans of Ternat and Tidore divide this large island between them. The natives are industri-

ous particularly in weaving; but their exertions are suppressed by the jealousy of the Dutch.

CERAM is also of considerable size, being about 190 miles in length, by 40 in breadth. It is low towards the shore, but with inland mountains. It has been little explored, and is almost unknown.

BOURO is about 90 miles in length, by 50 in breadth. This island rises suddenly from the deep, being encompassed as with a wall. The interior mountains are so lofty that they may sometimes be described at the distance of twenty eight leagues. This isle was nominally subject to the king of Ternat, but has been seized by the Dutch.

Of MORTAY, OUBI, and MYSOL, little is known. The first is a beautiful isle, but thinly inhabited, and is subject to the king of Ternat. Oubi abounds in cloves, and the Dutch have a small fort on the western side. Mysol, the easternmost of the group, is of a triangular shape, and has a bold shore.

The most celebrated and important islands of this group are the Moluccas, in the western extremity, and Amboyna and Banda, in the S.

The little or proper Moluccas are Ternat, Tidore, Motir, Makian, and Batchian.

TERNAT is the most northern, and the most important. It consists chiefly of high land, abounding with streams, which burst from the cloudy peaks; and there is a volcano, which displayed great force in 1693. The Sultan controuls Makian and Motir, the N. of Gilolo, Mortay, some of the Celebezian isles, and part of Papua, whence he receives a tribute of gold, amber, and birds of Paradise. These beautiful birds strictly belong to Papua, but extend their flight over most of the Spice islands.

The

The largest of the Moluccas is BATCHIAN, rising into woody hills, and on the shores, as in most of these isles, there are prodigious rocks of coral of infinite variety and beauty. It is governed by a Sultan, who is likewise sovereign of Oubi, Ceram, and Goram, a little isle S. E. of Ceram, reputed the easternmost boundary of the Mahometan faith.

MAKIAN is a small isle farther N. and rises like a high conic mountain from the sea. Next is MOTIR, formerly the seat of voluptuousness, followed by TIDORE, which yields only to Ternat, in importance. It has twenty five mosks. The Sultan possesses the S. of Gilolo, and claims tribute from Mysol.

Equally distinguished are the islands of Amboyna and Banda, cloves being now restricted, by the avarice of the Dutch, to the former, and nutmegs to the latter.

AMBOYNA is about 60 miles in length, from N. to S. and on the western side there is a large bay, which divides it into two limbs or peninsulas. On the eastern side is another bay, with a bad harbour, where the Portuguese erected their chief fortress, Victoria.

The town of Amboyna, the capital of the isle, stands near the south-western extremity, and is neatly built; the houses, on account of the frequent earthquakes, seldom exceed one floor.

The face of the island is beautiful; woody mountains and verdant vales being interspersed with hamlets, and enriched by cultivation. The inhabitants amount to more than 45,000, of which nearly 18,000 are Protestants, the rest Mahometans, except a few Chinese and savages. The natives are like other Malays, and when intoxicated with opium will commit any crime. The chiefs are called rajas. The Dutch are tolerably

 polished,

polished, this being the next settlement to Batavia in wealth and consequence.

BANDA OR LANTOR is the chief of a group, which comprises six or seven others. It does not exceed eight miles in length, and the greatest breath is about five. The nutmeg is the chief object of cultivation, and flourishes even amidst the lavas of Gonong, which is the highest isle, the summit being 1940 feet above the level of the sea. The inhabitants of the Banda isles are about 6000.

Cattle, grain, &c. are imported from Batavia; and the Chinese merchants carry European articles even to Papua or New Guinea.

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# AUSTRALASIA.

AUSTRALASIA consists of the following countries: New Holland, and the islands in the adjacent Indian ocean, 20°. to the W. and between 20°. and 30°. to the E. particularly including Papua, or New Guinea; New Britain, and New Ireland, with the Solomon isles; New Caledonia, and the New Hebudes; New Zealand; and the large island called Van Diemen's Land.

## *New Holland.*

Some suppose this extensive region will be found to consist of two, three, or more islands; but the most recent and authentic accounts still indicate New Holland to be a country fully entitled to the appellation of a continent. The length from

from E. to W. is about 2730 miles; and the breadth from N. to S. about 1960; being a quarter less than Europe; but this deficiency is amply supplied by the many large islands in the neighbourhood.

The eastern coast having been fully explored by Captain Cook, and justly appearing of great importance, was formally taken possession of in the name of the king of Great Britain, 1770. A colony was established at Botany Bay, on the eastern side, lat. 36°. S. but this station appearing ineligible, the colony was transferred to another excellent inlet, about 12 miles farther to the N. called Port Jackson, on the southern side of which, at a spot called Sidney Cove, this settlement is now fixed. Port Jackson is one of the noblest harbours in the world, extending about 14 miles in length, with numerous creeks or coves.

This extensive tract is supposed to be peopled by three or four races of men, those on the S. W. being described as differing from those of the N. and both from those of the E.

A chain of mountains is said to run N. and S. between 50 and 60 miles inland, but not easily accessible on account of numerous deep ravines. Basaltic columns often appear, and in Howe island they rise to such a height as to be visible at the distance of 12 leagues.

## *Papua or New Guinea.*

This interesting country is far from being completely investigated; but is conceived to be a vast island, extending from a cape, properly called White Point, in the N. W. probably to Cape Rodney, in the S. E. a length of more than 1200 miles, by a medial breadth of 300; thus being

far superior in size to Borneo, formerly reputed the largest island in these seas.

The coasts of Papua are generally lofty; and, inland, mountain rises above mountain, richly clothed with woods.

Some of the adjacent islands are better known than the mainland. At the north-western extremity are WAIJOO and SALWATTI, besides several smaller islands. The former is of considerable size, and is said to contain 100,000 inhabitants. The land is high, with lofty mountains, and on the N. side are two excellent harbours. Salwatti is also a large island, governed by a raja: the inhabitants of both resemble those of the mainland, being a singular race of horrible appearance and great ferocity.

Farther to the S. are the islands of ARROO and TIMORLAUT. The Arroo islands appear to be divided by intervening straits, and are the remarkable seats of the bird of Paradise. Timorlaut is little known.

## *New Britain, New Ireland, and the Solomon Isles.*

NEW BRITAIN was first explored by Dampier, who has given his name to the strait intervening between this country and Papua. Dampier visited the bay called Port Montague, and found the land mountainous and woody, but interspersed with fertile vales and beautiful streams. The country seemed very populous, the natives resembling those of Papua, and navigating their canoes with great skill.

NEW IRELAND is a long strip of land, divided by a channel from New Britain, and stretching from N. W. to S. E. The natives were found to be very hostile. Some of their canoes were 90 feet in length, formed out of a single tree.

The

The SOLOMON ISLANDS are considered as a large group, extending from Lord Anson's isle in the N. W. to the isle called Egmont, in the S. E. Some of the islands appear of considerable size, especially in length, and if they be the Solomon islands of the Spaniards, they are said to be rich in gold. Some of the natives are copper coloured, others of a deep black.

### *New Caledonia, and the New Hebudes.*

NEW CALEDONIA is a large island, the southern part of which, in particular, has been little explored. The natives are of a deep brown complexion, resembling those of New Zealand.

New Caledonia seems to be traversed by a chain of mountains which extends its whole length, rising gradually towards the east-south-east, about 3,200 feet above the level of the sea.

Among the NEW HEBUDES, Mallicola, in the N. and Tanna, in the S. have been more particularly described. The people of the former had a peculiar language. The latter is remarkable for a volcano and hot springs. The natives resemble those of New Holland rather than the inhabitants of the Friendly islands, and are particularly dexterous in the use of the spear.

### *New Zealand.*

This country is divided by a strait into two large islands; the southern part is not less than 600 miles in length, by about 150 in medial breadth, and the other is little inferior in size. One of these islands appears to be more fertile than the other; but both enjoy a temperate climate, similar to that of France. The natives are of a brown complexion, little deeper than the Spanish, and some are even fair.

### *Van Diemen's Land.*

This is the last great division yet discovered of the wide expanse of Australasia. The name was imposed by Tasman, in honor of the governor-general in the East Indies. It is an island in the form of an oblong square, about 160 miles in length, by half the breadth, being divided from New Holland by a channel called Bass's strait, which is more than 30 leagues wide, and contains a chain of small islands, running N. and S. The natives are black, with woolly hair, but their features are more pleasing than those of the African negroes. The land is chiefly of a good height, diversified with hills and valleys, well wooded and watered.

As far as present discoveries extend, the natives of New Holland and Papua seem to display an African origin; while most of the other islands in the Pacific appear to have been peopled from Asia.

# POLYNESIA.

THE geography of Polynesia may be greatly improved and enlarged by the discovery of new groups, and the more accurate arrangement of those already known. At present the following appear to be the chief subdivisions. 1. The Pelew islands. 2. The Ladrones. 3. The Carolines. 4. The Sandwich isles. 5. The Marquesas. 6. The Society isles. 7. The Friendly isles; besides many isles, scattered in different directions, of little consequence.

*The*

### *The Pelew Islands.*

These isles had scarcely been visited by any European, till Captain Wilson was wrecked at Oloolong. They are in general of a moderate height, well covered with wood, and are circled on the western side by a reef of coral.

The inhabitants are stout and well made, rather above the middle stature. Their complexions are of deeper colour than copper, but not black. Mild, affable, and industrious, this little tribe, like the inhabitants of Otaheite, form an exception to the general rule of savage existence. The language is probably a dialect of the Malay. The government is in the hands of a king, under whom there are roupaks or chiefs, who also constitute a kind of nobles.

### *The Ladrones.*

These islands are computed to be 12 or 14 in number; but not above three or four are inhabited. The natural history is little known, but it appears that some of them are volcanic. They obtained the appellation of the Ladrones, or the isle of Robbers, from the disposition of the inhabitants to pilfer. They were also called the Marian isles in honor of Mary, queen of Philip IV. of Spain. In colour, speech, manner, and government, the inhabitants considerably resemble the people of the Philippines. Guam, the largest, is about 40 leagues in circuit, and has 30,000 inhabitants.

In these seas is the stupendous rock called Lot's wife, rising in the form of a pyramid, almost perpendicularly, to the height of 350 feet.

### *The Carolines.*

The Carolines, so called from Charles II. of Spain, are the most extensive range of islands in the

the Pacific ocean. They are about thirty in number, and very populous, except three, which are uninhabited. The most considerable is Hogoleu, about 90 miles in length, by 40 in breadth. The natives resemble those of the Philippines.

### *The Sandwich Isles.*

These islands appear to have been first discovered by Captain Cook. Owhyhee, the largest of the group, is about 280 miles in circumference, and is unfortunately distinguished as the place, where this celebrated navigator was slain by the natives, in February, 1779.

The climate is more temperate than that of the West Indies. In Owhyee the mountains arrest the clouds, and produce rain inland, while there is sunshine on the shore. The winds are generally easterly, and there is a regular land and sea breeze.

The natives are rather of a darker complexion than those of Otaheite, but the features are pleasing. They are a mild and affectionate people, free from levity and pride; and the death of Captain Cook was not owing to ferocity, but to a sudden impulse of undeserved resentment. The government is in the supreme chief, whose funeral is accompanied by the sacrifice of two or more servants.

### *The Marquesas.*

The largest isle of the Marquesas is Noabeva, which is not half the size of Owhyhee, the largest yet discovered in the wide extent of Polynesia. The natives of this group are said to surpass all other nations in symetry of shape, and regularity of features; and were it not for the practice of tatooing, which blackens the body by

numerous

numerous punctures, the complexion would be only tawny. Some of the women are nearly as fair as Europeans. The religious ceremonies resemble those of Otaheite. Their deities are numerous, and their chiefs seem to have little power, custom alone being followed instead of laws.

### *The Society Isles.*

This group has attracted more attention than any other, and may include all the islands from 160°. west of Greenwich, to the eastern extremity of Polynesia, a range which will exceed even the Carolines in number, amounting to 60 or 70.

Of these OTAHEITE is the most considerable, being about 120 miles in circumference. It consists of two peninsulas, or rather mountains, joined by a neck of land, about three miles in diameter. The smaller peninsula to the S. E. is about 15 miles in length, by ten in breadth. The larger to the N. W. is almost circular, and about 25 miles in diameter. Near the central summit is a curious lake of some extent, but no river appears, there being only rivulets.

The natural colour of the inhabitants is olive, inclined to copper. Men exposed to the sun become very dark, but the women are only a few shades deeper than Europeans. The people of Otaheite are so polite and affable, and their manners are so engaging, that, joined with the romantic beauty of the country, this island is still preferred to all others in Polynesia.

Their deities are numerous, each family having its Tee, or guardian spirit, whom they worship at the Morai; but they have a great god, or gods of a superior order. The Tahouras or priests are numerous, and have great power.

EASTER

EASTER ISLAND, a remote and detached region, is of a triangular form, the longest side being about 25 miles, and at one extremity there appears to have been a volcano. The natives are very industrious, and appear to have the same language and features as the other inhabitants of Polynesia.

## *The Friendly Islands.*

This group extends chiefly from S. W. to N. E. including the Feejee islands, those called the Isles of Navigators, and several detached islands in a more northerly direction.

The FRIENDLY ISLES are so called from the disposition of the people. The chief isle is now styled by the native term Tongataboo. It is about 16 miles in length, and eight in breadth. On the N. side is a tolerable harbour. The inhabitants are of a more grave and regular behavior than those of Otaheite. The whole island is in a high state of cultivation, being divided into inclosures with reed fences, about six feet high, intersected with innumerable roads.

The FEEJEE ISLANDS to the N. W. are subject to Tongataboo.

The ISLANDS OF NAVIGATORS are by far the most important in this large group. The largest is called Pola, by Perouse. It is 40 miles in length, by about half the breadth.

Next in gradual diminution of size and in position from W. to E. are Oyolava, Maouna, and Opoun. According to Perouse, the first of these is equal to Otaheite, in beauty, extent, fertility, and population. He supposes, that this isle, the larger one of Pola, and Maouna, contain 400,000 inhabitants. The natives are of great stature, strong, and ferocious; but industrious and ingenious. Their speech was understood by a native of the Philippines, being derived from the Malay.

# AFRICA.

THIS continent is the third in size; but in a political and moral point of view, is the last and meanest of the four grand divisions of the earth.

EXTENT.—The length, from the southern extremity to the Mediterranean, is about 5000 miles, and the breadth, from Cape Verd, on the W. to Cape Guardafui, near the strait of Babelmandeb, on the E. as measured on the equator, is of equal extent.

FIGURE.—Africa is an immense peninsula, joined to Asia only by a neck of land lying between the Red sea and the Mediterranean, called the Isthmus of Suez. The form is generally represented as bearing some resemblance to a pyramid: the northern part of it, which runs along the shores of the Mediterranean, forms the base; and the Cape of Good Hope, the point, or top of the pyramid. As the equator divides this extensive country nearly in the middle, and by far the greater part of it is within the tropics, the heat in many places is almost insupportable to a European; but the climate, in the southern extremity is rather more moderate, the antarctic cold being more powerful than that of the other pole. The coasts, however, and the banks of rivers, such as the Nile, are generally fertile.

SITUATION.—The situation of Africa is extremely favourable for commerce, having a much nearer connexion with Europe, Asia, and America, than any of these quarters has with the rest; but though stored with inexhaustible treasures, it

is the misfortune of Africa, that it is inhabited by an innumerable people, ignorant of commerce, and divided into nations, which are insulated from each other.

INHABITANTS.—In the central and southern parts are the native regions of the negroes, whose colour, features, and hair distinguish them from all other races of mankind. The original inhabitants of the northern parts appear, in all ages, to have been radically distinct from the negroes, from whom they were divided by the great desert of Zaara; and in the eastern parts, the latter were yet farther repelled by the Arabian colony, which settled in Abyssinia.

POPULATION.— The actual population of Africa cannot exceed thirty millions, or perhaps even twenty.

MOUNTAINS.—Among the chief mountains of Africa, those of Atlas attracted the particular observation of the ancients, who fabled, that they supported the firmament, and derived from them the celebrated appellations of the Atlantic ocean, and the Atlantic islands. This chain may be considered as extending from Cape Geer, in a north-eastern direction, and giving source to many rivers flowing N. and S. till it expires in the kingdom of Tunis. In the centre there is a prodigious ridge of mountains extending from those of Kong in the W. to those of Kumri, or of the Moon, and the mountains of Abyssinia in the E.

DESERTS.— But the most striking feature of Africa consists in the immense deserts, which pervade many parts of this continent, the chief of which is called by way of eminence *Zaara*, or *the desert*, stretching, with few interruptions, from the shores of the Atlantic, to the confines of Egypt, a space of about 3000 miles, by a breadth of more than 800.

In

In Africa the want of inland seas is not supplied, as in S. America, by large navigable rivers; and the singular deficiency of both may be regarded as a radical cause of the striking want of civilization and commercial intercouse.

RIVERS.—The chief river hitherto discovered is the Nile, which rises in the Gebel el Kumri, or mountains of the Moon, in a district called Donga. Its comparative course may be estimated at 2000 miles, thus nearly rivalling the longest Asiatic rivers. The other chief rivers are the Nigir and the Gir, the course of each being probably about 1000 miles. That of Senegal is also considerable.

LAKES.—It is probable that considerable lakes may be discovered near the interior ranges of mountains; at present that of Maravi, lat. 10°. S. is the only one of such magnitude as to deserve particular notice, and even of this there is no certain or precise knowledge.

RELIGION.—The native inhabitants of this country are Pagans, those of the N. are Mahometans. This religion has unfortunately penetrated farther into the interior than was at first imagined, and presents great obstacles to the success of enterprising travellers, who attempt to explore the country. The people of Abyssinia are denominated Christians.

DIVISIONS.—The coasts of Africa are the only parts concerning which any accurate information has been obtained. A brief description of these will include, 1. Abyssinia. 2. Egypt. 3. The Mahometan states in the north. 4. The Western coast. 5. The Cape of Good Hope. 6. The Eastern coast. 7. The island of Madagascar, and other isles allotted to this division of the globe.

# ABYSSYNIA.

EXTENT.—This very ancient kingdom extends about 770 miles in length, by a medial breadth of 550.

BOUNDARIES.—On the east the chief boundary is the Red sea, and it is divided from the kingdom of Adel by an ideal line; while on the north, south, and west, mountains, forests, and deserts constitute the barriers by which it is separated from other countries.

DIVISIONS.—Abyssinia is divided into provinces, of which Dembea, includes a lake of the same name.

CITIES.—Gondar is the capital of the monarchy: It is supposed to contain 50,000 inhabitants. Axum, anciently the royal city, and which received a Roman ambassador, is still known by its extensive ruins, among which are many obelisks. The other towns are few and unimportant.

POPULATION.—The general population of Abyssinia is vaguely estimated at two or three millions.

MOUNTAINS.—The mountains of Abyssinia are irregularly grouped, being at the junction of that chain, which borders the western shores of the Red sea, and of that far superior ridge, which pervades central Africa from east to west, giving source to the Nigir and Senegal at one extremity, and to the Gir and the Nile at the other. The loftiest mountains are towards the centre of the kingdom. The precipices are tremendous and truly alpine.

RIVERS.

Rivers.—The chief river is the Bahr el Azrek, or Abyssinian Nile, which has a spiral origin like the Orinoco. The sources of the real Nile, or Bahr el Abiad, in the Alps of Kumri, remain to be described. Receiving no auxiliary streams in its long progress through Egypt, the Nile is singularly narrow and shallow, when compared with other rivers of far shorter course. Another considerable stream is the Maleg, which joins the Abawi or Nile, after a parallel course on the W. Two other rivers, the Hanazo and the Hawash, flow in an opposite direction, towards the entrance of the Red sea.

Lakes.—The chief lake is that of Tzana, or Dembea, pervaded by the Nile, being about 60 miles in length, by half the breadth.

Religion.—The religion is the Christian; but strangely degraded with some peculiar and minute forms and practices.

Government.—The government is absolute and hereditary, with a kind of election in the royal family.

## EGYPT.

Extent.—This country, celebrated from the earliest ages of antiquity, is about 500 miles in length from N. to S. by half the breadth. But this extent is merely nominal; Egypt being in fact a narrow vale on both sides the Nile, bounded by parallel ridges of hills or mountains.

Population.—The population is estimated at two millions and a half.

CITIES.—The chief city is Cairo, or Kahira, which indeed may be regarded as the metropolis of Africa. It is situated on the eastern side of the Nile, connected by two suburbs with the river. The inhabitants are said to amount to 300,000. Before the discovery of the Cape of Good Hope, the commerce was immense; and Cairo is still the centre of trade to eastern Africa, as Tripoli is to the west. Next in consequence are Alexandria, Rosetta or Raschid, and Damietta. Upper Egypt no longer boasts of a Thebes; and even Girgeh, formerly the capital of this part, begins to decline.

The chief scenes of antiquity are the pyramids, and the tombs near Thebes, with many ruins of temples, and other remains of ancient cities.

MOUNTAINS.—The mountains arrange themselves along the banks of the Nile, but chiefly between that river and the Red sea. In Upper Egypt the rugged and lofty rocks have a grand and terrific appearance.

RIVERS.—The only important river is the Nile. Its greatest breadth is about one third of a mile, and the depth about twelve feet. The water is muddy; when it overflows it is of a dirty red. It begins to rise about the middle of June, the Abyssinian rains having begun in April, and it ceases in October.

LAKES.—There are several extensive lakes in the northern part of Egypt, the largest being that of Menzala, which communicates with the sea by one or two outlets.

The Natron lakes, so called from their production of natron, or the mineral alkali, are situated in a desert, near the remarkable channel, supposed to have been anciently a branch of the Nile.

CLIMATE.

CLIMATE.—The climate of Egypt is well known to be peculiar, rain being a most uncommon phenomenon. The heat is also extreme, particularly from March to November; while the cool season, or a kind of spring, extends through the other months.

RELIGION.—The prevailing religion is the Mahometan, but there are many Christian Copts, who have their priests and monasteries.

GOVERNMENT.—The government is at present unsettled, but will probably return to the aristocracy of the Beys and Mamlukes.

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Between Egypt and Abyssinia is an extensive tract of about 600 miles in length, by 500 in breadth, by the ancients styled ETHIOPIA, but more precisely by the Arabian geographers, NUBIA. The greater part is occupied by wild deserts, on the E. and W. but on the Nile are two states of some little consequence, Dongola, on the N. and Sennaar, on the S. Darfur is the capital of the former; the latter does not merit a description.

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# MAHOMETAN STATES

## IN THE NORTH.

THESE are Tripoli, Tunis, Algiers, and Morocco. Of these TRIPOLI is the most extensive and the least known. It extends from the gulph of Cabes, the smaller Syrtis of antiquity, to the confines of Egypt; but a great part is desert. The

The town of Tripoli is in a low situation; but to the S. are plantations of date trees, and verdant hills, which relieve the tameness of the scene. It is in a state of rapid decay, scarcely four miles in circumference, and thinly peopled. The power of the Turks is recent; but it has continued, more particularly at Tripoli, where the Bey is considered as immediately subject to the Porte.

Next on the west is TUNIS, the central region of northern Africa, and formerly the chief seat of Carthaginian power. The town of Tunis is about three miles in circumference, containing about 50,000 inhabitants. The ruins of Carthage are a little to the N. E. The chain of Atlas seems to terminate in Cape Bon. The chief river is the Mejerda, and in the S. there is a lake of considerable extent, the Palus Tritonis of antiquity. In general the Tunisians are renowned as the most polite and civilized among the Mahometans of Africa.

ALGIER may be regarded as the last Mahometan state on the Mediterranean, for Morocco chiefly extends along the Atlantic. The city is supposed to be the ancient Icosium, and is not above a mile and half in circumference. The kingdom of Algier comprises the Numidia and part of the Mauritania of the ancients.

The mountain of Jurjura is the highest in Barbary, being about eight leagues in length, in a north-eastern and south-western direction, full of rocks and precipices, but only covered with snow during the winter. This mountain is about 60 miles to the S. E. of Algier, and perhaps forms a part of the real Atlantic chain.

The chief river is the Shellif, rising from the northern side of the Atlas, as the Wal Jedi does from the southern, the former being the

Chinala,

Chinala, while the latter is the Zabus of antiquity.

The productions are in general the same as those of Tunis, consisting of woollen stuffs, gold-dust, oil, &c.

The empire of Morocco nominally consists of several small kingdoms, that of Fez having been united since it became an independent sovereignty. In the hands of an industrions people, the kingdom of Morocco might be of considerable importance; but the western harbours are blocked up with sand, so that Morocco may be effaced from the list of maritime powers. The chief Mahometan port is Tetuan, which is rather an open road; but the town is in a picturesque situation, and the people are particularly friendly to the English. The city of Morocco is situated in a fertile plain, watered by several lucid streams from the Atlas. It is of considerable extent, and surrounded with very strong walls. The inhabitants are supposed to be 20,000.

The principal cities, besides the capital, are Fez, Mequinez, Tangier, and Sallee. At Fez the best red Morocco leather is made, as the most beautiful yellow is at Morocco. Fez has about 3000 inhabitants. The bay of Tangier is spacious, but dangerous during the easterly winds. The port of Sallee is choaked with sand. The residence of the king is frequently at Mequinez.

There are heaths of great extent, and the ridge of Atlas here displays its lofty summits and most extensive wildness; but many districts are fertile, particularly that of Tafilet, on the south-eastern side of the Atlantic ridge.

The Moors of the towns are somewhat civilized, particularly the mercantile class, and the wandering Arabs are hospitable; but the Brebes or Brebers, who gave name to Barbary, are a fierce

fierce and obstinate race of the ancient natives, and, secure in the mountainous recesses, defy the government, being chiefly ruled by elective sheiks.

# THE WESTERN COAST.

On this side of Africa, as far as it has been explored, are innumerable tribes, which merit but little description. The Jalofs or Yalofs, and Foulahs, are the chief races on the rivers Senegal and Gambia; whilst Guinea, divided into the Grain, or more properly the Windward coast, Ivory coast, and Gold coast, chiefly supplies slaves; those from the river Senegal are called Mandingos, from an inland country of the same name; those from the Gold coast are called Koromantees, and those towards Benin, Eboes.

The Yalofs are an active and warlike race, and are esteemed the handsomest of the negroes. The Mandingos are widely diffused, and are of a mild and sociable disposition. The Foulahs, near the river Gambia, are chiefly of a tawny complexion, with silky hair, and pleasing features. The Foulahs of Guinea are of a very different description. Teembo, the capital of the latter, contains about 7000 inhabitants, and there are iron mines worked by the women, besides some manufactures in silver, wood, and leather. To the west is the English settlement of Sierra Leone.

The kingdom of Benin is very considerable. The capital of the same name is said to contain thirty

thirty streets of low houses. The inhabitants are remarkable for cleanliness and propriety of behaviour.

LOANGO is a country of no small extent, on the N. of Congo. The capital Bouali, is called Loango by the French. The dry season begins with April and ends with October; but the greatest heat is in the rainy season, or the other six months. The mountains are merely clay, without rock or stone, and the rivers do not increase in the rainy season.

The chief city of CONGO is called St. Salvador, by the Portuguese. The houses are round thatched hovels. The inhabitants have the negro colour, but their features rather resemble the European. The town is in a most romantic situation, in a plain on the top of a mountain, like some Hindoo fortresses; while from the sides burst numerous fountains and cascades of the purest water.

The Spring, as it may be called, begins in October, but heavy rains continue for two or three months. About the end of January is one harvest; and in March more gentle rains commence and continue till May, when there is a second dry season or harvest, their nominal winter beginning in July.

The Zahir or Zair is a grand and rapid river, and the mouth is said to be five leagues in width, freshening the sea to a great distance. It has vast cataracts, near one of which is a mine of bright yellow copper.

## THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

THIS territory is about 550 miles in length, and 230 in breadth. The white inhabitants, exclusive of Cape Town, do not exceed 15,000; and the whole may be about 20,000. To the S. E. of Cape Town are some small vineyards, which yield the noted wine called Constantia.

The mountainous chains run from E. to W. The first ridge is from 20 to 60 miles from the sea; the second called the Zwart Berg, or Black mountain, is more lofty and rugged, and is about the same distance from the first; the third is the Nieuveld, which, with the second, encloses a great karroo or desert, rising like a terrace about 300 miles in length E. and W. and 80 in breadth. The country is more fertile towards the Indian ocean than towards the Atlantic, a character which seems to pervade Africa. The chief resorts of trading vessels are False bay, on the S. and Table bay, on the N. which opens to Cape Town.

The Orange river, also called the Groot or Great river, passes W. by N. till it join the sea between the Great and Little Nemakas. There are high cataracts, and inundations like those of the Nile. The rains commence in November, and cause the inundations to take place towards the Nemaka country in December.

Beyond the Nemakas are the Copper mountains and sandy deserts.

The Damaras, or people of these mountains, widely differ from the Hottentots and the Negroes, and are acquainted with the smelting of copper, and some other rude arts.

THE

# THE EASTERN COAST.

On leaving the colonial possessions, the bay of Delagoa, and the adjacent country appears on the east. One of the chief rivers which enters the bay, is the Mafumo; the natives on the northern and southern banks follow distinct customs. On the southern side the dominions of the chief extend about 200 miles inland, and about 100 on the sea shore. The natives are Kaffers or pagans, of a bright black colour, tall, and stout. They are a good humoured and harmless people, and fond of excursions on the river. The inhabitants around this large bay are supposed to be from six to ten thousand.

The most civilized and powerful kingdom seems to be that of Mocaranga, absurdly called Monmotapa, which was the appellation of the monarch or emperor, who was reigning, when the country was first discovered. The soil of this country is said to be fertile, though the plains are exposed to great heat; while the mountains called Lupata, or the Spine of the world, form a great chain, stretching from N. to S. covered with perpetual snow.

The great river Zambezi, which encircles the kingdom on the N. and W. is said by the natives to rise in a vast lake. It is very rapid, and in some places a league in breadth. At thirty leagues distance from the sea it divides into two branches, called the Luabo, and the Guilimane. The Delta consists of five mouths, but the Luabo is the chief stream, on which is a cataract of stu-



pendous

pendous height; and rocky rapids for 20 leagues. The Zambezi inundates the country like the Nile; but in the month of April.

The Portuguese have here two fortresses, and another station near the mountains of Fura, which are said to abound in gold.

The kingdom of MOZAMBIQUE, or Mozambico is considered as subject to the Portuguese, who had a considerable town of the same name, situated in an isle, the governor being dependent on the viceroy of Goa.

ZANGUEBAR is said to be a marshy and unhealthy country, but abundant in elephants: it is chiefly inhabited by the Mocuas, partly Pagans, partly Mahometans.

The little kingdom of QUILOA, with that of MOMBAZA, and MELINDA, a Mahometan state, are partly dependent on the Portuguese, who have a fortress in the city of Melinda, and several churches.

The coast of AJAN is chiefly Mahometan, and carries on a considerable trade in ivory, ambergris and gold.

BRAVA, a little aristocracy, pays tribute to the Portuguese, who have not been able to encroach on MAGADASHO, or on the kingdom of ADEL, which last was dependent upon Abyssinia, and is said to be a fertile country. The capital is Auzagurel, standing on an eminence near the river Hawash; and Zeila, on the Arabian gulf, is a considerable port.

INTERIOR

# INTERIOR OF AFRICA.

Of the internal and most interesting part of Africa little is known. Mr. Park, in his travels, discovered the Moorish kingdom of Ludamar, being detained at Benown; and another called Beeroo, the capital of which is Walet; while to the E. is the celebrated kingdom of Tombuctoo. To the S. of these are the Negro kingdoms of Kaarta and Bambarra, the capital of the last being Sego; beyond which about 80 miles to the N.E. is Silla, the utmost extent of Mr. Park's expedition.

It appears that the three great rivers, the Gambia, Senegal, and Joliba or Nigir, rise from a chain of lofty mountains, N. lat. 11°. which probably extend in an immense chain to the mountains of Kumri, which gives source to the Nile and Bahr Kulla, in N. lat. 7°. The geographical objects in Mr. Park's route are the river Joliba, and the town of Sego. When this river was first described by this enterprising traveller, it was flowing gently to the eastward and glittering to the morning sun, with an expanse as broad as the Thames at Westminster. At Silla Mr. Park was informed, that two days journey to the E. is the town of Jenne, situated on an islet in the river; beyond which, at the like distance, is the Dibbi, or Dark lake, in crossing which from W. to E. the canoes are said to lose sight of land for an entire day. From this lake the river issues in several streams, terminating in two large branches, which join at Kabra, one days journey S. of Tombuctoo, and form the port of that city or

 town.

town. At the distance of eleven days from Kabra the river passes to the southward of Houssa, which is two days journey from the Joliba. "Of the farther progress of this great river and its final exit, all the natives seem to be entirely ignorant."

To the S. of the Nigir were mentioned the districts of Gotto; to the W. of which are Baedoo and Maniana, the inhabitants of the last being reported canibals.

On the eastern side Mr. Browne has extended our knowledge of the geography of Africa, to the kingdoms of Darfur and Kordofan. To the S. of Cobbé at the distance of twenty-three days, are noted copper mines; beyond which, at the distance of seven days and a half, is the Bahr el Abiad, or real Nile. To the W. is the river of Kulla, the banks of which are said to abound with pimento trees. The natives of Kulla are partly negroes, and partly of a red or copper colour, and the country is frequented by Jelabs or traders from Bergoo and Fur, in order to procure slaves.

On the W. of Bornou, Mr. Browne heard of Afnou, which is a negro word for Nigritia in general; but it is particularized as a country abundant in silver; and there is a remote part of the Pagan country called Gnum-gnum, where the people eat their captives taken in war; but this can scarcely be the Maniana of Mr. Park; from the limits of whose discoveries to those of Mr. Brown, long. 17°. is a deficiency of 13°. or 780 geographical miles; but this space unfortunately comprises the most interesting portion of northern Africa, and especially the termination of the Nigir.

THE

# THE ISLE OF MADAGASCAR.

THIS noble island is about 840 geographical miles in length, and about 220 in medial breadth, being esteemed one of the largest in the world, though seemingly exceeded by Papua, and still more by New Holland. It appears to have been unknown to the ancients.

Madagascar is said to contain two hundred millions of acres of excellent land, watered by rivers and rivulets, from a long chain of mountains passing in the direction of the island, and separating the eastern from the western coast. The scenery is strikingly grand and picturesque, diversified with precipices, cataracts, and immense forests.

The natives are rather above the middle stature, and are of various origins; some being negroes, others tawny or copper coloured; but the complexion of the greater part is olive; and it seems that the Arabs, in very early times, penetrated very far into Africa.

The French settlement of Fort Dauphin is in the south-eastern extremity of the island, and the French are chiefly acquainted with the southern part.

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Of the smaller African islands Pemba, Zanzibar, and Monfia, are opposite to the coast of Zanguebar. PEMBA is said to be 100 miles in circumference, governed by a king, who pays tribute to Portugal; to which power the two others are also said to be subservient.

The islands of COMORO are four in number, of considerable size, and governed by Pagan or Mahometan chieftains, tributary to the Portuguese.

To the E. of Madagascar are the islands of MAURITIUS or FRANCE, and BOURBON. The former has a tolerable port, the centre of the oriental force and commerce of the French. The isle of Bourbon is about fifty leagues in circumference, of a circular form, and rising to high mountains in the centre.

There is also a noted volcano, difficult of access, at the summit of a mountain, a league from the sea, the eruptions of which are frequent and continual.

The S. is here the origin of cold and desolation. Proceeding round the Cape towards the N. the scene improves, and St. HELENA is a beautiful isle, possessed by about 300 English families, the governor residing in a fort, with a small garrison. There is only one harbour which is difficult of access.

The isle of ASCENSION, between Africa and Brazil is of considerable size, but mountainous, and the soil is a barren sand.

On approaching the African shore to the N. of Congo, and passing the neglected isle of St. Matthew, first appears the isle of Annabon, followed by St. Thomas, Prince's isle, and Fernando Po.

The isle of St. THOMAS was settled by the Portuguese, in spite of the climate, which is foggy, and singularly unhealthy. The soil is remarkably strong and fertile, and the produce of sugar is prodigious.

PRINCES ISLAND is also fertile, with a good harbour, and a town of about 200 houses on the northern shore. It is inhabited by about forty Portuguese and 3000 negro slaves.

FERNANDO

Fernando Po seems destitute of any good harbour, but the nominal possession is retained by the Spaniards.

Opposite to the promontory from which they take their name, are the Cape Verd islands. They are ten in number, the two largest being St. Jago, in the S. E. and St. Anthony, in the N. W. The air is hot and unhealthy, and most of the isles stony and barren.

Farther to the N. the Canary islands form an interesting range from W. to E. The isle strictly called Canary, is smaller than Fuerta Ventura and Tenerif. The latter is the most remarkable, on account of the Peak, which is ascertained to be 10,452 feet above the level of the sea, or about 5000 feet lower than Mount Blanc. The capital of the seven inhabited islands is the town of Palma, in the isle of Canary; but Tenerif is the most populous. The inhabitants are computed at 140,000; of whom 64,000 belong to Tenerif. The excellent Canary wine is chiefly from Tenerif and Palma, which also yield considerable quantities of sugar.

The island of Madeira is chiefly remarkable for excellent wines. It is 18 leagues in length, by seven in breadth. The capital, Funchal, on the southern side of the isle, is a handsome town, with about 11,000 inhabitants; the population of the whole island being estimated at 64,000. The interior consists of high mountains, visible at the distance of twenty leagues.

About nine degrees to the N. W. are the islands of the Azores, of which the chief are St. Michel, Tercera, Pico, or the Peak, and Fayal, with swo smaller ones. The Peak has a mountain of remarkable height, by some reported to equal that of Tenerif. Tercera, the chief of these isles, is about 15 leagues in circumference.

cumference. The capital town is Angra, in which resides the governor of the Azores. The harbour of Fayal presents a beautiful amphitheatre, clothed with trees. The climate and soil are excellent, fires being unnecessary, even in winter.

# AMERICA.

THE great Western Continent, frequently denominated the New World, was first discovered by Christoval Colon, a Genoese, commonly called, from the first latin writings on the subject, Christopher Columbus. He first landed at one of the Bahama islands, which he called St. Salvador, and steering southward, he found the island of Hispaniola, which he proposed to make the centre of his discoveries. In a second voyage he acquired a general knowledge of all the islands in that great sea, which divides N. and S. America, and touched at Cuba and Jamaica.

Brazil was discovered by the Portuguese, and makes at present the most valuable part of their possessions.

Sebastian Cabot, a native of Bristol, and the son of the Venetian navigator, was the discoverer of Newfoundland, and explored the north-eastern coast, which now constitutes the territory of the United States; but Amerigo Vespuccio, a merchant of Florence, who sailed to the southern part of this continent, had the honor of giving his name to the whole of the Western hemisphere.

EXTENT.

EXTENT.—Amidst the uncertainty which involves the northern limits, the extent of America may be estimated from the 72°. N. lat. to the strait of Magalhaens, or the 54°. S. lat. a space of 126 degrees. In the N. the breadth may be computed from the promontory of Alaska to the extreme point of Labrador, or even of Greenland. In the S. the greatest breadth is from cape Blanco in the W. to that of St. Roque in the E. which according to the best maps is 48°. or about 3360 miles. The length of America may be estimated at 8800 miles, and the breadth in the N. according to the assumed extent, will be about 4400.

DIVISIONS.—This immense tract is composed of two great continents, one on the N. and the other on the S. joined by the kingdom of Mexico, which forms an isthmus 1500 miles long, and in one part so extremely narrow as to make the communication between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans by no means difficult.

# NORTH AMERICA.

BOUNDARIES.—This division of the new continent is bounded on the east by the Atlantic, and on the west by the Pacific ocean. On the S. it is understood to extend to the vicinity of Panama, but the northern limits have not yet been clearly ascertained. If it should be discovered, that Greenland is united to the Arctic lands of America, as Kamschatka is to Asia, both the length and the breadth of this division will be greatly increased.

DIVISIONS.

DIVISIONS.—Exclusive of the central and unexplored regions possessed by the native tribes of N. America, this vast extent of country is divided between Great Britain, the United States, France and Spain. This last claims all the land to the W. of the Mississippi, except Louisiana, lately ceded to France, and E. and W. Florida. According to the treaty of 1783, all the country N. of the northern boundary of the United States, and east of the river St. Croix, belongs to Great Britain. The remaining part, lying between the Apalachian mountains and the shores of the Atlantic, is the territory of the United and Independent States.

POPULATION.—The population of N. America, including the kingdom of Mexico, is estimated at twelve millions and a half.

INLAND SEAS.—Among the inland seas of N. America may be mentioned the gulphs of Mexico, California, and St. Lawrence, Hudson's Bay, more properly Hudson's sea, Davis's strait, which may justly be supposed to be a sea of communication between the Atlantic and the Arctic oceans; the existence of Baffin's bay being extremely doubtful.

Of all these seas the gulph of Mexico is the most celebrated, as lying in a most favourable climate, and presenting at its entrance that grand Archipelago of North American islands called the West Indies. From this gulph a singular current sets towards the N. E. This current, called the gulph stream, passes to the bank of Newfoundland, and is supposed to proceed from the accumulation of waters by the trade wind.

The opposite shore presents the gulph of California, which seems an estuary of two large rivers.

The gulph of St. Lawrence is the expanded water of a river of the same name, generally frozen from December to April. This noble gulph is closed by the island of Newfoundland, and by numerous sand banks, particularly that, which is called the Great Bank.

Hudson sea, may be considered as extending from the entrance of Hudson strait to its western extremity about 1050 miles, exceeding the Baltic in length as well as breadth. This sea has been repeatedly explored for a N. W. passage, perhaps as little to be expected as a passage from the Baltic into the Arctic ocean. Chesterfield inlet is a singular strait stretching far to the W. which terminates in a magnificent lake of fresh water.

The gulph or sea of Davis may be considered as part of the sea of Hudson, and probably joins the Arctic ocean.

LAKES.—The lakes Superior, Michigan, and Huron form one large inland sea, which might be called the sea of Canada, or of Huron. This expanse of water is about 360 miles in length, and more than 100 at its greatest breadth. That part, which is called Lake Superior, is not less than 1500 miles in circumference. It communicates with Lake Huron by the strait of St. Mary, which is about 40 miles in length, though in some places only one or two in breadth. The navigation, except for canoes, is interrupted by a rapid towards the north-western extremity. The circumference of Lake Huron is said to be 1000 miles. Another short strait leads into the third lake called Michigan, also navigable for ships of any burden. It does not appear that these lakes are ever impeded with ice.

The lake Winnipeg or Winipic may also be considered as an inland sea, but yields considerably

ably to the Slave lake or sea, a recent discovery, from which Mackenzie's river extends its course to the Arctic ocean. The Slave sea is about 200 miles in length, by 100 at its greatest breadth. It is not improbable, that other large lakes may be found in the western regions of N. America, which remain unexplored.

RIVERS.—Of the rivers of N. America, the Mississippi claims the chief distinction on account of the length of its course, though perhaps this pre-eminence and the continuance of its name should have been given to the Missouri.

The source of the Mississippi has been traced to three small lakes above lat. 47°. It receives the waters of the Ohio and of the Illinois, and their numerous branches from the E. and of the Missouri and other rivers from the W. These mighty streams united are borne down with increasing majesty through vast forests and meadows and discharged into the gulph of Mexico. The comparative course of this river has not been well ascertained, but its windings are so numerous and extensive, that the whole of its current has been estimated at more than 3000 miles.

The Missouri is in fact the principal river, being longer, broader, and deeper than the Mississippi, and it affords a more extensive navigation. It has been ascended about 12 or 1300 miles, and appeared to be navigable many miles farther.

The Ohio is a most beautiful stream. Its current gentle, its waters clear, and its bosom smooth and unbroken by rocks and rapids, a single instance only excepted. With all its windings from Fort Pitt to its junction with the Mississippi, its length amounts to more than 1100 miles. At their confluence neither of these rivers is more than 900 yards across.

The

The noble river of St. Lawrence is universally regarded as the second in N. America, being not less than 90 miles wide at its mouth, and navigable for ships of the line as far as Quebec, a distance of 400 miles from the sea. Though there be some rapids this grand river may be considered as navigable to Kingston, and the lake Ontario, 743 miles from the sea.

MOUNTAINS.—The mountains of N. America are far from rivalling the Andes of the S. with which they cannot justly be connected, as they have neither the same character nor direction. The centre of N. America presents a vast fertile plain, watered by the Missouri and its auxiliary streams. On the W. a range of mountains extends from New Mexico in a northern direction, and joins the ridge called the Stoney Mountains, which extend to the Arctic Ocean. Among these probably are some of the highest in N. America.

The most celebrated mountains are those called the Apalachian, passing through the territory of the United States from the S. W. to the N. E. They commence on the N. of Georgia, where they give source to many rivers running S. to the gulph of Mexico, and to the Tenassee, and others running N. There are several collateral ridges, the breadth of the whole being often 70 miles. After proceeding through Pennsylvania, and passing Hudson river, they rise to great elevation, and expire in the country of New Brunswick.

The Apalachian chain may thus extend about 1000 miles, a length unrivalled by any European mountains, except the Norwegian Alps. The height of the chief summits does not appear to be precisely ascertained, but probably does not exceed 3000 feet above the level of the sea;


and

and they are often clothed with forests.——The mountains of the Isthmus, as well as those in the western part of N. America, are certainly of far superior elevation.

RELIGION.—The prevailing religion of N. America is the christian, under various forms in the United States; and the Roman Catholic in the Spanish and French dominions, and among the French of Canada.

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# UNITED STATES.

BOUNDARIES.—The territories of the United States are bounded on the east by the Atlantic Ocean, and on the west by the great river Mississippi, which is considered as a limit of Spanish America. On the N. an ideal line pervading the great lakes of Canada, is continued along the river St. Lawrence to lat. 45°, not far to the S. of Montreal, when it passes due E. and follows a chain of mountains N. E. and afterwards diverges S. E. to the river St. Croix, which falls into the bay of Fundi. On the S. an arbitrary line, about lat. 31°. divides the United States from the Spanish dominions of E. and W. Florida.

EXTENT.—The greatest extent of the United territory is from E. to W. in the northern part, where it exceeds 1300 miles; and the line along the shores of the Atlantic nearly corresponds; but the breadth from the Canadian lakes to the southern limits is only about 1000 miles.

DIVISIONS.—The United States are classed under three divisions, the northern, the middle, and the southern.

*The northern States are :*

| STATES. | TOWNS. |
|---|---|
| Vermont, | Bennington. |
| New Hampshire, | Portsmouth. |
| Massachusetts, | Boston. |
| Connecticut, | Newhaven. |
| Rhode island, | Newport. |

Main in this quarter belongs to the province of Massachusetts. The northern States, formerly distinguished by the appellation of New England, are remarkable for the comparative smallness of the subdivisions, all the five provinces being only of similar extent with New York, Pennsylvania, or Virginia.

*The middle States are :*

| STATES. | TOWNS. |
|---|---|
| New York, | New York. |
| New Jersey, | Trenton. |
| Pennsylvania, | Philadelphia. |
| Delawar, | Dover. |

And the territory on the north-west of the Ohio.

*The southern States are :*

| STATES. | TOWNS. |
|---|---|
| Maryland, | Annapolis. |
| Virginia, | Richmond. |
| Kentucky, | Lexington. |
| North Carolina, | Edenton. |
| South Carolina, | Charlestown, |
| Georgia, | Agusta. |
| Tenesse, S. of Kentucky, | Knoxville. |

CITIES.—With regard to size and consequence the cities of the United States may be thus arranged; Philadelphia, New York, Boston, Baltimore, Charlestown; but in relation to commerce, New York precedes Philadelphia, and Charlestown ranks above Baltimore.

The city of Washington, in the territory of Columbia, has been established as the seat of government since the year 1800. It stands at the junction of the rivers Patomak and the eastern branches, extending four miles along the banks of each, and including a tract of territory exceeded in point of convenience, salubrity, and beauty, by none in America.

The city of Philadelphia is supposed to contain 50,000 inhabitants, and was designed by Wm. Penn, the first proprietor and founder of the colony of Pennsylvania in 1683. The form is an oblong square, extending about two miles on the western bank of the Delawar.

New York, the capital of the province of the same name, is situated on a promontory at the mouth of Hudson river, a noble and picturesque stream. In commerce New York is considered as the chief city in N. America, the harbour admitting ships of any burden.

Boston was formerly regarded as the capital of the province of Massachusetts, and of all those northern provinces called New England. Its trade has since declined, though it is still far from inconsiderable.

Baltimore, in Maryland, stands near the head of the great bay of Chesapek, and has rapidly acquired its present consequence. In 1790, the inhabitants were 13,500.

Charlestown, in S. Carolina, is situated at the confluence of Ashley and Cooper rivers, which are large and nagivable, and open into a capacious

cious estuary. This city is celebrated for easy and social manners.

POPULATION.—The population of the United States is said to be six millions, but the rapid increase of its inhabitants will soon render this estimate too low.

MOUNTAINS—In addition to the mountains, which have already been described, the White and Green mountains in the northern provinces, and the Land's Height, which bounds the district of Main, may be regarded as elongations of the Apalachian chain, to which also belong the Allegany mountains, so called from another name of the river Ohio; the Blue mountains being the most general term for the exterior ridge towards the ocean.

RIVERS.—Besides the Mississippi the great western boundary of the United States, and the celebrated Ohio, which pervades their territory east to west, there are many important rivers, which fall into the latter, as the Great and Little Miami, and the Wabash from the N. the Great Kennaway, the Kentucky, the Great River, and above all, the Cumberland, and the Tenassee from the S. while the country on the W. of Georgia is watered by several streams, which join the gulph of Mexico.

Among the numerous rivers which flow, on the E. into the Atlantic Ocean, is the Connecticut, a long and distinguished stream, which gives name to the province, but yields in length and grandeur to Hudson river, which rises from several lakes in the northern part of New York, and flows into the ocean near the flourishing city of that name. The river Delawar, which washes Philadelphia, is more remarkable for its breadth than for the length of its course. The Susquehanna is distinguished for both these attributes, and forms

 the

the chief contributary stream to the bay of Chesapek, which also receives the Patomak and the Fluvanna, or James River. The Patomak is distinguished as the seat of the new capital, and for its irruption through the Blue ridge of the Apalachian mountains. The river of Cape Fear, the Pedee, the Santee, the Savannah, and the Altamaha of Georgia, close the list of the chief rivers of the United States.

LAKES.—The lakes on the W. have been little explored. On the E. the most important is that of Champlain, rather resembling a wide river, which flows into that of St. Lawrence, and supplies an easy communication with Canada. Lake Georgia at the southern extremity of Champlain, approaches within a few miles of Hudson river, so that a canal might be opened at no great expence.

Georgia presents a singular marsh or in the wet season a lake, called Ekanfanoko, in the south-eastern extremity of the province. It is about 300 miles in circumference, and contains several large and fertile isles, one of which is represented by the Creek Indians as a kind of paradise, inhabited by a peculiar race, the remnant of an ancient tribe, nearly exterminated by the Creeks.

RELIGION.—The religion of the United States is the reformed system of Christianity; but every sect is treated with universal toleration, or rather equal independence. In Maryland, as the first settlers were Roman Catholics, that system continues to predominate, and in Connecticut the Reformed Episcopal scheme is admitted.

GOVERNMENT.—The government of the United States is vested by the constitution of 1789, in a president and two councils. The president is chosen for the term of four years. The senate

or

or superior council consists of two senators chosen from each state every six years. The house of representatives is elected every second year, and is not to contain more than 200 members. The legislative power is vested in the two councils; while the executive is lodged with the president; and a vice-president is chosen to supply his place on any emergency.

# SPANISH DOMINIONS.

BOUNDARIES AND EXTENT.—Towards the S. the boundary of these large and flourishing possessions is decidedly the eastern boundary of Veragua, the last province of N. America; consisting of a ridge called Sierras de Caratagua. On the N. it ascends to the Turtle lake, one of the sources of the Mississippi, nor do the Spaniards readily assent to any boundary in this quarter. On the W. it is marked at Fort Francisco, to the N. of the town of Montery. Upon the whole the sources of the Rio Brava may be assumed as a medial boundary; while on the S. it extends to lat. 7°. 30′; a length of 32°. or about 2200 miles. But the breadth little corresponds to this prodigious length of territory; in the narrowest part of the isthmus, in Veragua, it is not above 25 miles, and in general the medial breadth can scarcely be computed at more than four hundred.

Of

Of this wide empire the chief part is distinguished by the name of MEXICO or NEW SPAIN. The proper empire of Mexico was only a moderate kingdom about 600 miles in length by 140 in breadth; and the republic of Tlascala was within sixty miles of the capital.

DIVISIONS.—The Spanish dominions in North America are divided into seven grand territories, often called kingdoms by the Spanish authors. These are, 1 Guatemala; 2 Mexico; 3 New Biscay; 4 New Leon; 5 New Mexico; 6 California; 7 Florida.

CITIES.—The chief city of New Spain, and of all Spanish America, is Mexico, celebrated for the singularity of its situation. In a beautiful vale, surrounded with mountains, the lake of Tezcuco is joined on the S. to that of Chalco by a strait, on the western side of a tongue of land, the whole circuit of these lakes being about 90 miles. In a small isle to the N. of this junction, and upon the western side of the lake Tezcuco, rose the old city of Mexico, accessible by several causeways raised in the shallow waters, but on the eastern side there was no communication, except by canoes. It is said to contain 150,000 inhabitants; of which probably a third part is Spanish. From the most recent accounts of this city, the waters of the lake seem to have diminished, so as to leave a fenny access on the west. Mexico, though inland, is the seat of vast commerce between Vera Cruz on the E. and Acapulco on the W. In magnificent regularity it yields to few cities even on the ancient continent.

There are many other flourishing cities in this wide empire. In a commercial point of view the most interesting are Vera Cruz and Acapulco, the two chief ports; the former on the Atlantic, the latter on the Pacific Ocean. Vera Cruz is situated

situated in a sandy and barren plain, with infectious marshes on the south. It fronts the sea in a semicircle, and is enclosed with a wall. The population is about seven or eight thousand. The principal inhabitants are merchants, and commerce is well understood.

Acapulco is the chief mart of trade with the Philippines. When the galeon or Chinese ship arrives, the merchants at Mexico hasten to receive their commodities; but at other times the town is little frequented or peopled, being in a hot and wet climate.

Of the central and more celebrated provinces, Puebla de los Angeles and Queretaro are regarded as the most extensive and populous cities. Puebla is in a warm and dry climate, and one of the most beautiful cities of America. Queretaro is situated in a delicious vale, watered by a river which is diverted into numerous channels, and conveyed into 2000 gardens, producing all the fruits and flowers of Europe and America.

These cities are succeeded by Guadalaxara and Guatemala. The former is more extensive than populous. It stands on the river Barnaja, which flows from the lake Mechoacan, and the plain of Guadalaxara is well watered with many rivulets, and surrounded with hills, overshadowed with pines and oaks.

Guatemala, founded at the side of a volcano, was totally destroyed by an earthquake, 1775, when eight thousand families perished; but New Guatemala is built at some distance, and its population is supposed to be equal or superior to that of Guadalaxara. The inhabitants are celebrated for personal beauty and sweetness of disposition.

In the S. Veragua, also called St. Jago, is a small town tolerably situated, in a warm and moist climate.

climate. Cartago is a miserable place without any trade. St. Leon and Granada are both situated on the large lake of Nicaragua, where the chain of the Andes is supposed to terminate, even by those who carry its extension to the utmost limit.

Campechy, in Yucatan, possesses a tolerable haven, and is not a little frequented. The chief trade is in dying woods. Truxillo, in Honduras, is also worthy of notice.

POPULATION.—The population of all the Spanish provinces in N. America has been estimated at little more than seven millions, of whom the natives, called Indians, are supposed to amount to four millions.

MOUNTAINS.—The principal chain of mountains is that of Topia, commencing in the neighbourhood of Guadalaxara and extending northwards to New Mexico, a distance of 700 miles, while the breadth of all the ridges is sometimes 160. This chain is of such height as to be comparable with the Andes of Peru, and abounds with precipices of profound and terrible aspect.

RIVERS.—The principal river of this country is the Rio Bravo, called also del Norte, or of the Northern star. The course of this important river may be about 1000 miles, but its whole circuit probably exceeds that of the Danube.

Towards the west is the Colorado, a large river, which flows into the gulph of California, whose course may be computed at 600 miles. It is joined from the E. by a large river called Gila, which however is every where fordable.

LAKES.—The chief lake is that of Nicaragua, which is about 170 miles in length and half the breadth. The river St. Juan forms a great outlet to the gulph of Mexico, while a smaller stream is supposed to flow into the Pacific.

Thus

Thus hath nature supplied half the means of the long-wished-for passage from the Atlantic to the Pacific.—Among the more northern lakes is that of Mexico, not only celebrated, but of great extent, being more than thirty miles in length, if the part called Chalco be included. Towards the W. where the isthmus begins to enlarge, there are several lakes, the principal being that of Chapala, which is about 60 miles in length, by 20 in breadth.

RELIGION.—The religion of the Spanish settlers in these provinces is well known to be the Roman Catholic, and of that kind, which greatly impedes industry and improvement; for it is computed, that one fifth part of the Spaniards consists of ecclesiastics, monks, and nuns; and the establishment of the inquisition prevents the admixture of other Europeans.

The religion of the ancient Mexicans appears to have been chiefly founded on fear, the temples being decorated with the figures of destructive animals. Human victims were deemed the most acceptable, and every captive taken in war, was cruelly tortured and sacrificed.

GOVERNMENT.—The ancient government of Mexico was an hereditary monarchy, tempered however by a kind of election. Despotism seems to have begun with the celebrated Montezuma. There were several royal councils, and classes of nobility, mostly hereditary. As writing was unknown, there was no code of laws.

The Spanish government is vested in the viceroy of Mexico, whose rank and power are far superior to those of Peru and the new kingdom of Granada. The court is formed on the regal model, with horse and foot guards, a grand household, and numerous attendants. In the provinces there are tribunals called Audiences, of

of which there are eleven for Spanish America; and the council of the Indies, resident in Spain, controls even the viceroys.

## BRITISH POSSESSIONS.

THOSE parts of N. America which still belong to Great Britain, are extensive and of considerable importance, though so thinly peopled, that the inhabitants scarcely exceed 200,000, and the far greater part are French or natives.

The chief of these possessions is Canada; to the E. of which, and S. of the river St. Lawrence is Nova Scotia. New Britain comprehends the most northern parts, towards Hudson's Bay, and the coast of Labrador. The large island of Newfoundland; that called Cape Breton; and the neighbouring isle of St. John, complete the chief dominions of British territory.

## CANADA.

EXTENT.—This country is computed to extend from the gulph of St. Lawrence and the isle of Anticosti, in the E. to lake Winnipeg in the W. about 1400 miles. The breadth from the lake Erie, in the S. may extend to lat. 42°. or about 420 miles, but the medial breadth is not above 200.

DIVISIONS.

Divisions.—Canada is now divided into two provinces, called Upper and Lower Canada, the former being the western division, on the N. of the great lakes or sea of Canada; while the lower division is on the river St. Lawrence, towards the E.

Cities and Towns.—The chief city is Quebec, built on a lofty point of land on the north-western side of the great river St. Lawrence; which, in the neighbourhood, is sufficiently deep and spacious to float more than 100 sail of the line. The inhabitants are supposed to be 10,000, about two thirds being French. The vicinity presents most sublime and beautiful scenery; and the falls of the river Montmorenci are particularly celebrated.

Montreal is a neat town on the eastern side of a considerable island, formed by the river St. Lawrence, at its junction with the river Utawas, which is the boundary between Upper and Lower Canada, about 150 miles above Quebec. This is the utmost point to which ships can ascend from the sea. The chief trade is in furs, which are sent to England. Canoes are chiefly employed on the Utawas, whence the fur-traders proceed across the land to lake Winnipeg.

York is the seat of government of Upper Canada. It is situated within an excellent harbour of the same name, made by a long peninsula, which embraces a bason of water sufficiently large to contain a considerable fleet. Vessels may ride safely at its entrance during the winter.

At the grand egress of the river St. Lawrence from the lake Ontario, stands the town of Kingston, more remarkable for its position than any other circumstance. The forts of Niagara and Detroit belong to the southern or American side of the boundary. Trois Rivieres stands between

Quebec and Montreal, and is chiefly remarkable for the resort of the savages. Sorelle is at the distance of 15 leagues from Montreal towards Quebec; the chief business is ship-building.

POPULATION.—The population of the two Canadas, according to an actual enumeration in 1784, amounted to 113,000 French and English, exclusive of 10,000 loyalists, in the upper parts. The savages may perhaps amount to 30,000.

MOUNTAINS.—The mountains of Canada have not been accurately described. The chief ridge seems to be in the northern part of the province, giving source to the many streams which flow S. E. while a few pass to Hudson's Bay.

RIVERS.—The great river St. Lawrence has been already described. The Utawas is the most important of all its tributary streams, issuing from various lakes towards the centre of Canada: its waters are of a bright greenish color, while those of St. Lawrence are muddy.

RELIGION.—The religion of Canada is the Roman Catholic; but the British settlers follow their own mode of worship.

GOVERNMENT.—British America is superintended by an officer styled Governor General. A legislative council and an assembly are appointed for each of the provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, having power to make laws with the consent of the Governor; but the king may declare his dissent at any time within two years after receiving any bill.

NEW

## NEW BRUNSWICK.

THE ancient province of Nova Scotia is divided into two provinces, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. In the former there are two considerable bays, and a river of some length, called St. John's, which affords a common and near route to Quebec. It is navigable for vessels of fifty tons for sixty miles, and for boats about two hundred. There are many lakes, among which the Grand Lake is 30 miles long and about nine broad. The capital is Frederick-town on the river, about 90 miles from its estuary. St. Anns is almost opposite, and there are some settlements near the bay of Fundi.

## NOVA SCOTIA.

THIS province is about 300 miles in length, by 80 of medial breadth, being inferior in size to New Brunswick. There are several considerable rivers, among which, that of Annapolis is navigable 15 miles for ships of 100 tons. The bay of Fundi between New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, extends 50 leagues inland, and presents an infinite variety of picturesque and sublime scenery. The capital is Halifax, on the bay of Chebucto, well situated for the fishery, and it is said to contain 15 or 16,000 inhabitants; a population superior to that of Quebec.

## ISLAND OF CAPE BRETON.

THIS island is attached to the province of Lower Canada, though divided from Nova Scotia only by a strait of one mile in breadth. It is about 100 miles in length, and is said to have been discovered about the year 1500 by the Normans and Bretons, who navigated these seas, and being supposed a part of the continent, was called Cape Breton. It is now subject to the British crown. The chief towns are Sidney and Louisburg. The whole inhabitants of the isle do not exceed 1000. The fur trade is inconsiderable, but the fishery is very important; this island being esteemed the chief seat.

The island of St. John at no great distance to the W. being almost 60 miles in length by half the breadth, is attached to the province of Nova Scotia. It is said to be fertilized by several streams. A lieutenant-governor resides at Charlotte town, and the inhabitants of the island are computed at 5000.

## NEWFOUNDLAND.

THIS island was discovered by John Cabot, in 1497, who also founded the prior claim of England to the N. American shores as far S. as Florida. Newfoundland is about 320 miles in length and breadth,

breadth, the shape approaching to a triangle. The great fishery on its banks begins about the middle of May, and continues to the end of September, and is computed to yield £300,000 per Ann. The chief towns are St. John, in the S. E. Placentia, in the S. and Bonavista, in the E. but not above a thousand families remain during the winter.

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## THE BERMUDAS,

OR

### SOMMER ISLANDS.

THE dreary shores of Newfoundland are strongly contrasted by the Bermudas, or Sommer islands, which lie almost at an equal distance between Nova Scotia and the West Indies, and nearer to the coast of Carolina than to any other land. They were called Bermudas from John Bermudas, the first discoverer, but neglected by the Spaniards. They were again disclosed by the ship-wreck of Sir George Sommer, and were uninhabited, when the English took possession. They are four in number. The chief is called St. George, and has a town of the same name, the inhabitants being about three thousand, and those of all the isles about nine thousand. There is a governor, council, and general assembly; the religion is that of the church of England. The people are chiefly occupied in building light ships of their cedars, in which they trade to N. America and the West Indies.

# NATIVE TRIBES,

and

# UNCONQUERED COUNTRIES.

## GREENLAND.

THIS extensive region, whether insular or continental, must be regarded as belonging to North America. It was first discovered by the people of Iceland, in the tenth century. In more recent times the western coast was chiefly explored by Davis and other English navigators. It is said, that the country is inhabited as far as the 76°. but the Danish and Moravian settlements are chiefly in the S. W. The natives have no conception of what is called Baffin's Bay; but say, that in the north of their country there is a narrow strait, which divides it from America.

The natives are short, with long black hair, small eyes, and flat faces, being a branch of the Iskimos, or American Samoieds; it is supposed they do not exceed ten thousand. Their canoes are of a singular construction, and have sometimes been wafted as far as the Orkneys. The highest mountains are on the western side; and three pinnacles of the Stag's Horn are visible from sea, at the distance of 40 or 60 leagues.

The short summer is very warm, but foggy. The winter is very severe, but the gloom is diversified by the vividness of the northern lights. Rocks are often burst by the intensity of the frost.

LABRADOR.

## LABRADOR.

THIS large extent of coast was so named by the Portuguese navigator, Corte de Real, who made the first discovery. In the inland parts there were American savages, and on the coast Iskimos; but the former have mostly retired to the S. and even the latter seem gradually to withdraw. As far as discovered, Labrador is generally hilly and even mountainous. The eastern coast exhibits a most barren appearance, rocky mountains rising suddenly from the sea. Inland the air is milder, there are many trees, and some symptoms of fertility.

The natives live in wigwams, a kind of tent, covered with deer-skins and birch bark; and are a sort of Roman Catholics, being anxious to visit the priests at Quebec. The Iskimos are the same people as the Greenlanders. They use sledges drawn by dogs, as in Asia.

## HUDSON'S BAY.

THE regions about Hudson's Bay, and that of Labrador, by a miserable compliment to the parent country, have sometimes been called New Britain. In the S. James's Bay stretches inland about 300 miles, by about 150 in breadth, and the most valuable settlements are in that vicinity.

The

The most important rivers are the Nelson and Saskashawin, and the Severn, which flows from the lake Winipeg. Its comparative course scarcely seems to exceed 400 miles, but it is of great breadth and depth.

The winters are extremely severe. The rocks burst with a horrible noise, equal to that of heavy artillery, and the splinters are thrown to an amazing distance. The natives of the N. are Iskimos; but there are other savages in the S. and the factories are visited by several tribes.

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## CENTRAL PARTS.

TILL the journey of Mr. Hearne, an officer in the Hudson's Bay Company, and the more difficult and laborious enterprizes of Mr. Mackenzie, little was known concerning the interior parts of N. America. Mr. Hearne pursued the course of the Copper river to its mouth, where he describes the sea as full of shoals and islands. He found the Iskimos here of a dirty copper colour, and rather shorter in stature than those of the south.

Mr. Hearne afterwards visited one of the copper mines, about 30 miles S. E. from the mouth of the river, being merely a hill, which has been rent by an earthquake or some other convulsion of nature. The copper is found in lumps, and is beaten out by the help of fire and two stones. On his return he passed farther to the W. and arrived at the north side of the great lake of Athapuscow. This lake is very full of wooded islands,

islands, and according to the natives is 120 leagues in length from E. to W. and 20 wide. Proceeding southward he arrived at the great river Athapuscow, which he found about two miles in breadth, being evidently the Slave river of Mr. Mackenzie.

This last enterprizing traveller proceeded along the Slave river to the Slave lake, whence he entered a river now called Mackenzie's river, till he reached the Arctic Ocean. Near the wide estuary he observed several shoals. Though so far to the N. there seem to be other savages besides the Iskimos; and it appears from their report, that there is another large river on the western side of the Stoney Mountains, which also joins the Arctic Ocean.

On his second voyage, as it may properly be called, Mr. Mackenzie proceeded up the Peace river or Unjiga, in a S. W. direction till he reached a high land beyond the Stoney Mountains, the highest of which he computes at 817 yards. After transporting their canoe with some difficulty, Mr. Mackenzie and his attendants embarked on a small river on the other side, which soon brought them into the river Oregan, Columbia, or Great River of the West, the origin and course of which were before totally misunderstood. The Unjiga is from 4 to 800 yards wide. The cold was often extreme, rather from the height of the general level than that of the mountains, which does not exceed 1500 feet. Where they reached the Oregan, it was about 200 yards wide. Towards the Pacific the natives are fairer than in other parts of N. America, and one man was at least six feet four inches in height.

A complete confirmation arises from these expeditions, that there is no northern communica-

tion

tion between the Atlantic and Pacific, except at so high a latitude, that it must be impeded by perpetual ice.

## WESTERN COAST.

THE Russians may be regard as the first discoverers of the north-western shores of America. To the isles between this continent and Asia, they assign different names, for which one general appellation is substituted, that of the Aleutian isles.

The farthest Aleutian isles, which form a chain from the American promontory of Alaska, are also called the Fox isles, whilst the nearest are termed Beering's and Copper isles.

This coast seems to be chiefly alpine; in which and in its numerous creeks and isles it bears no small resemblance to Norway. The lofty mountains, which La Perouse computes at more than ten thousand feet in height, terminate at Cross Sound; but the alpine ridges continue, though of smaller elevation, and probably extend with few interruptions as far as California.

AMERICAN

# AMERICAN ISLANDS,

OR

# WEST INDIES.

THESE islands, so important to commerce, are Cuba, St. Domingo, Jamaica, and Porto Rico, all of considerable extent; and followed by the distinguished group called the Antilles, Carribbee or Leeward islands; but more properly the Windward islands, as being towards the E. the point of the trade wind. Our mariners adopt both terms, the Windward islands ending with Martinico, the Leeward reaching from Dominico to Porto Rico. To the south of this group is Trinidad, a recent English acquisition; to the W. of which stretch the Leeward islands of the Spaniards. In the N. E. of this grand assemblage are the Bahama or Lucayos islands, chiefly remarkable as having been the first discovery of Colon.

## CUBA.

THIS noble island is not less than 700 miles in length, but the medial breadth does not exceed 70. On his first voyage, after exploring the Bahama isles, Colon discovered Cuba; but though delighted with the beauty of the scenery, and amazed at the luxuriant fertility of the soil, he soon abandoned it to proceed to Hayti, afterwards

wards called Hispaniola, where he expected to find a greater abundance of gold.

This extensive island is divided by a chain of mountains passing E. and W. The rivers are of short course, but there are several excellent harbours. Havanah, the capital, was surrendered to the English in 1761, and treasures were found of no small amount.

The industry of the Spaniards is far from being proverbial, yet such is the fertility of Cuba, that it is a most important and flourishing possession. There are mines of excellent copper, and gold is not unknown in the rivers. There is a governor-general; and eighteen jurisdictions are governed by distinct magistrates.

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## ST. DOMINGO.

THIS island, the second in the American archipelago, is now possessed nominally by the French. It is almost 400 miles in length, by 100 in breadth. Under the name of Hispaniola it was the first Spanish settlement in the New World. The French colony derived its origin from a party of buccaneers, towards the middle of the seventeenth century; and such was the industry of the French, and the flourishing state of the colony, that it was termed the paradise of the West Indies. The population amounted to more than 30,000 whites, and about 480,000 negro slaves, the mulattoes or free people of colour, being supposed to be 24,000.

In

In consequence of the French revolution after many struggles between the whites and mulattoes, on the 21st June 1793, three thousand negro slaves, supported by the mulattoes, entered the capital city of Cape François, and perpetrated a universal massacre of the white men, women, and children, and the colony has been lost to European civilization and culture.

## JAMAICA.

THIS island was discovered by Colon during his second voyage. In 1655, it fell into the hands of the English, by whose industry it has become one of the most flourishing of the West-Indian settlements. It is about 170 miles in length, by 60 in breadth; and is divided into three counties, Cornwall in the west, Middlesex in the centre, and Surry on the east.

St. Jago or Spanish-town is regarded as the capital; while Kingston is the chief sea-port. The number of negroes is computed at 250,000, and the whites are probably 20,000; the free negroes and mulattoes 10,000. The climate, though tempered by the sea breezes, is extremely hot, and the days and nights nearly of equal duration.

A ridge of mountains from E. to W. divides the island into two parts, and the landscape often boasts of peculiar beauties. The Blue Mountain Peak rises 7430 feet above the level of the sea;

 and

and the precipices are interspersed with beautiful savannas. There are about 100 rivulets, of which the Black River, running to the S. is the most considerable.

The legislature consists of the captain general or governor; the council of twelve, nominated by the crown; and a house of assembly, containing 43 members, elected by the freeholders.

## PORTO RICO.

THIS isle, which belongs to Spain, is about one hundred and twenty miles in length, by forty in breadth. Its size and consequence are well known to the possessors, being a fertile, beautiful, and well watered country. The chief trade is in sugar, ginger, cotton, &c. The northern part is said to contain mines of gold and silver.

## THE CARIBBEE ISLANDS.

THE Caribbee islands are of noted fertility and commercial advantage, the chief possessions being the English and French. Barbadoes, Antigua, St. Christopher's, St. Vincent, Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, Nevis, and the Virgin isles, are British. Martinique, Guadaloupe, St. Loucie, Tobago, and some islets are French. The Danes

Danes possessed St. Croix, St. Thomas, and St. John, which belong to the Virgin group, but they have been recently seized by the English: while the Swedes hold St. Bartholomew, and the Dutch St. Eustatius. Of the whole group, Barbadoes and Guadaloupe appear to be the most important, the latter, being about 80 miles in length by 25 in breadth. Though Barbadoes be only about 20 miles in length and thirteen in breadth, this early English settlement has prospered to a surprising degree, as it is supposed to contain 17,000 white inhabitants, while those of the other islands rarely exceed 2000. These islands are generally plain and fertile, being remarkably contrasted with the barrenness of the Bahama group.

A few small islands run parallel with the shore of S. America, of which Curazao and Buenayre belong to the Dutch. Near this coast is Trinidad, lately ceded by Spain to Great Britain. It is 90 miles in length and about 30 in breadth. The climate is said to be excellent, and remarkably free from hurricanes. The southern coast is well adapted to the culture of coffee, and on the W. is a large harbour, reputed very secure in all seasons.

# SOUTH AMERICA.

EXTENT.—This division of the new continent extends southward from the mountainous boundary between the province of Veragua and Parama,

 the

the latter belonging to S. America. The length, from the most northern point, about the 12°. N. lat. to the southern extremity is about 4600 miles, while the breadth is about 3360.

POPULATION.—The whole of S. America is supposed to contain not more than six millions of inhabitants.

MOUNTAINS.—The mountains of S. America constitute some of the grandest objects in natural geography, being not only the most lofty on the face of the globe, but intermixed with volcanoes of the most sublime and terrific description. The extent is also prodigious, the Andes stretching in one line from the Cape of Pilares, on the S. to the western side of the gulph of Darien, and generally following the windings of the coast, at the medial distance of 100 miles. The chief summits are near the equator. Chimborazo, the highest of these, about 10 miles N. of Riobamba, is computed at 20,280 feet above the level of the sea, about 5000 feet higher than Mont Blanc. That part, which is covered with perpetual snow is about 2400 feet from the summit. But these mountains have their bases on the high plain of Quito, which constitutes more than one third of the computed height; so that considered as elevations from the land, they still yield to Mont Blanc.

The next in height is supposed to be the volcano called Cotopacsi, estimated at about 18,600 feet. Other grand summits are Pichincha, a few miles to the N. E. of Quito, the Altar, and Sangay, to the S. E. of Chimborazo. In general the Andes here proceed in a double chain, the interval being the plain of Quito.

According to the account of Humbolt, a Prussian naturalist, there are other remarkable chains, which proceed from W. to E. parallel to the equator,

equator, the most northern of which, or that on the coast of Venezuela, is the most lofty, but the narrowest. The second chain, that of Parima, or of the cataracts of Orinoco, is little known, and was scarcely esteemed passable till within these thirty years. The third range is that of Chiquitos, which unites the Andes of Peru and Chili with the mountains of Brazil and Paraguay. The highest summits appear to be between lat. 15°. and 20°. the rivers there passing N. to the Maranon, or S. to La Plata.

RIVERS.—The river of Amazons, is so called from a female tribe inured to arms, discovered on its banks by the first navigators, but more properly the Maranon. When its magnitude, as well as its length is considered, it is justly celebrated as the most distinguished river in the whole world. The source is not yet absolutely ascertained, but allowing for the great changes of direction, the length may be estimated at 2300 miles.

The chief stream is the Ucial, whose sources are more remote than those of the Maranon, and it is a considerable river in the same parallel in which the other is only a torrent. On the other hand, the Maranon makes a greater circuit and is of extraordinary depth. Like the Missouri and St. Lawrence, the Maranon is discoloured with mud. The breadth at the Portuguese boundary is said to be a league, but it is generally about two miles; and no bottom is found at 100 fathoms. The effect of the tide is perceivable at the distance of 600 miles. Near its mouth the Bore rises from 12 to 15 feet in height, and the noise of this irruption is heard at two leagues.

The main streams of the Rio de la Plata, or river of Silver, are the Paraguay and the Parana, by which latter name the conjunct rivers are still

 called

called by the natives. The grand cataract of the Parana is not far from the city of Cuayra; but is rather a series of rapids amidst rocks of singular and tremendous forms. This noble river is studded with numerous islands; and the Spanish vessels navigate to the town of Assumption, about 400 leagues from the sea. The length of La Plata is about 1900 miles, and the breadth of the estuary is such, that the land cannot be discovered from a ship in the middle of the stream.

The third great river is the Orinoco, of a most singular and perplexed course. It is said to rise from the small lake of Ipava, and to wind almost in a spiral form; passing S. E. it enters the lake of Parima, and issues by two outlets, but after receiving the Guaviari, it bends N. then N. E. till it enters the Atlantic by an extended delta, opposite the isle of Trinidad. It is a most extraordinary circumstance, that the Orinoco communicates with the Maranon by three connecting rivers; a circumstance, which in the possession of an industrious people, would render Spanish Guiana, or New Andalusia, one of the most flourishing countries in the world.

The other rivers of S. America are comparatively of small account, the chief being the Magdalena, running N. to the Caribbean sea; and that of St. Francis, which waters a great part of Brazil.

Lakes.—No part of the globe displays so great a number of lakes as N. America, and the southern part is perhaps equally remarkable for their rarity. In the most northern part of this division of the new continent, the Lagoon of Maracaibo forms a circular basin, about 100 miles in diameter, and communicates with the sea by a considerable creek. The celebrated Parima, of

doubtful

doubtful existence, is represented as more than 100 miles in length, by 50 in breadth.

The lake of Titicaca, in the kingdom of Peru, though now ascribed to the viceroyalty of La Plata, is regarded as the most important in S. America. It is said to be of an oval figure, the circumference about 240 miles, and the depth 70 or 80 fathoms. It receives ten or twelve rivers and several rivulets; the water is nauseous, but not saline.

Many supposed lakes only exist during the annual inundations, which are on a far grander scale than those of the Ganges, and may be said to deluge whole provinces.

RELIGION.—The religion of South America is in general the Roman Catholic, with the exception of the small Dutch territory, and a few savage tribes.

THE

# SPANISH DOMINIONS.

EXTENT.—According to the representations of the r own geographers, the possessions of Spain in the southern part of America are of prodigious extent, stretching from the Caribbean sea to the most southern promontory; but the regions to the S. E. inhabited by the Teheuls and other tribes confessedly independent, are justly excluded from the Spanish domain. The remaining length may be 4000 miles, but the medial breadth is not above 1000. The whole length of the Spanish

possessions

possessions in America may thus be computed at more than 5000 geographical miles. Though not equal in extent, yet in every other respect, they are far superior to the Asiatic empire of Russia.

BOUNDARIES.—On the E. the boundary between the Spanish possessions and those of the Dutch and Portuguese, is sometimes ascertained by mountains and rivers, but often consists of an ideal line. In general the Portuguese territory in S. America is perhaps equal in extent to the Spanish, compensating by its breadth, which includes the far greater part of the Maranon, for its deficiency in length.

DIVISIONS.—The Spanish territories are minutely divided into vice-royalties, audiences, provinces, &c. The grand divisions are the viceroyalty of La Plata; that of Peru, which includes Chili; and that of New Granada, in the N. the capital of the first being Buenos Ayres, of the second Lima, and of the third Bogota, or Santa Fé de Bogota.

## LA PLATA.

EXTENT.—This grand viceroyalty is the most important of all the divisions, and that by which the chief opulence of the Spanish dominions in S. America passes to the parent country. Its length from the chain of Vilcanota, a branch of the Cordillera, lat. 14°. S. to the river Negro, about lat. 38°. is 1680 miles, and the breadth, which is pretty nearly equal, may be computed at 840.

POPULATION.

POPULATION.—The population is estimated at one million.

DIVISIONS.—This extensive viceroyalty is divided into 12 audiences, and geographically into 30 provinces.

CITIES AND TOWNS.—The chief city is Buenos Ayres, which is situated on the western side of the great river Parana or La Plata, and derives its name from the salubrity of the air. The regularity of the buildings gives it the air of an English city. The inhabitants are supposed to be 40,000, of whom the Spaniards compose one half.

Montevideo, in the neighbourhood of Buenos Ayres, is celebrated for its harbour, which is the most considerable and advantageous of the viceroyalty.

Potosi, next in importance to the capital, is supposed to exceed it in population, the inhabitants being estimated at 100,000. It stands in a cold, mountainous district, which is consequently barren. The famous mountain of Potosi may be said to consist of one mass of silver, which the avarice and labours of 260 years have scarcely weakened.

La Paz, in the same region, is also a considerable city, having about 20,000 inhabitants. It is an elegant and clean town, chiefly trading in the noted tea of Paraguay. Mendoza, formerly in Chili, is now joined to this viceroyalty. It is founded in a pleasant situation on the eastern side of the Andes, where there is a celebrated passage for travellers to Peru.

Other towns are Chucuito on the lake Titicaca, and Puno on the western side; Oruro, noted for its mines; Santa Cruz; Jujuy, towards the S. Salta, celebrated for its fair for mules and horses; Cordova,

Cordova, the capital of a province; and Assumption in Paraguay.

The important government of La Plata is entrusted to a viceroy, whose jurisdiction extends to the whole political management, except the royal treasury, over which he has no authority.

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## PERU.

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THE limits of this celebrated region were greatly restricted during the last century. Modern Peru extends from the river Tumbez, lat. 3°. 30′. S. to the chain of Vilcanota, lat. 15°. S. or about 800 miles, to which may be added a long strip called the province of Arica, extending 400 miles farther S. The breadth is very irregular.

BOUNDARIES.—On the N. the viceroyalty of Peru borders on that of New Granada; on the N. E. it is bounded by Pampa del Sacramento, on the E. by the savage nations of Pajanol, and on the S. E. by the viceroyalty of Buenos Ayres.

DIVISIONS.—The provinces or rather districts of the Peruvian viceroyalty are very numerous, being more than forty; the inhabitants of which are estimated at more than a million, including Spaniards, Indians, and negroes.

CITIES AND TOWNS.—The capital city is Lima, which has thrice been nearly destroyed by earthquakes. Its wealth is chiefly derived from mines in the N. and S. but agriculture prospers in the vicinity.

The second city of the viceroyalty is Cuzco, formerly the seat of the Peruvian monarchy.

Proudly

Proudly situated amidst the surrounding Andes, it still maintains the majesty of a capital. The site is unequal, on the skirts of various mountains, watered by the little river Guatanay. In size it is nearly equal to Lima, and the inhabitants are estimated at 26,000.

The other chief towns are Truxillo, Arequipa and Guamanga. The first is the most important, but the situation is exposed to earthquakes. The population of the city is estimated at 9000. Arequipa was founded by Pizarro. The climate is rather dry and healthy; but the city has repeatedly suffered from earthquakes, especially in 1785; before which time the population was estimated at 30,000. Guamanga was also founded by Pizarro, in a wide and beautiful plain, watered by a river, and crowned with perpetual spring. The buildings are of stone, and thought superior to any in Peru.

Guancavelica stands in a break of the Andes, and is one of the largest and richest cities of the viceroyalty; but the climate is cold and changeable.

Lambayeque is in a pleasant and fertile situation, two leagues from the sea, and bathed by a river of the same name; and Caxamarca is a large and beautiful though irregular town, with more than 12,000 inhabitants, and among them many illustrious families descended from the conquerors.

Government.—The government of Peru, like that of the other viceroyalties, is divided into political and ecclesiastic. It is understood that each viceroy is to give to his successor an account of his administration, and of the condition of the country, and is liable to prosecution for any acts of injustice.

# NEW GRANADA.

EXTENT.—This viceroyalty extends from the river Tumbez, lat. 3°. 30′. S. to the Caribbean sea, lat. 12°. N. about 1080 miles in length, whilst the medial breadth is about 280.

DIVISIONS.—This grand and opulent viceroyalty, sometimes called Santa Fé, from the capital, contains 24 provinces. The population of which is supposed to yield to that of the other viceroyalties, yet it can scarcely be less than one million.

CITIES AND TOWNS.—The capital city is Santa Fé de Bogota, or as it is often styled, Bogota, in a situation sufficiently central, near the river Funza, which at the distance of 35 miles, falls into the great river Magdalena. Though only four degrees from the equator the climate is rather cold. It is a large and handsome city, the streets being broad and well laid out. The population is thought to exceed 30,000. In the neighbourhood of this capital is the celebrated cataract, where the river Bogota or Funza falls from a prodigious height.

The celebrated city of Quito is said to contain not less than 58,000 inhabitants. The upland plain to the S. of the city is crowned with numerous volcanoes, and the high mountain of Cotopacsi is described as a terrestrial paradise. Though little damage was sustained at Quito, an earthquake in the year 1797, destroyed Latacunga and the neighbouring hamlets. Quero and all its people were buried in an instant, by a cliff which fell upon the town.

Riobamba

Riobamba also became one heap of ruins and desolation, and soon totally disappeared; for the peak of Sicalpa falling upon the town, and stopping the two rivers, which pass by it, formed a lake, so that even the ruins were not visible. Of 9,000 inhabitants only about 400 escaped.

Popayan, founded on a delicious plain, is an ancient bishopric: the inhabitants do not exceed 8000. The town is in the form of a square, with regular streets, and handsome buildings.

Guayaquil is another considerable city on a river of the same name. An unhealthy marsh in the vicinity infects the city with pestilential vapours; but its advantageous situation for trade attracts many settlers.

Panama, Portobello, and Carthagena, once so celebrated, have greatly declined, since the galeons have ceased to enrich these cities. Santa Marta has a good haven defended by two forts, but has considerably declined. The mountains about three leagues distance, clothed with perpetual snow, may be regarded as the termination of the main chain of the Andes.

Rivers.—The great rivers Magdalena and Cauca rise and terminate in this viceroyalty. The navigation of the Cauca, between Papayan and Antioquia, is rendered dangerous by winding rapids, which however the Indians pass in their canoes. The Magdalena is a majestic and navigable stream, the Danube of New Granada.

Government.—The government is similar to that of the other viceroyalties, with a royal Audience at Santa Fé, a treasury, and royal mint.

# CARACAS.

DIVISIONS.—The government of Caracas, so called from the chief town Leon de Caracas, now comprises the adjacent provinces of Maracaibo, Varinas, Cumana, including Barcelona, Spanish Guiana, and the isle of Margarita. The population is supposed to amount to 700,000.

CITIES AND TOWNS.—Caracas is a considerable town, on the little river of Guayra. It is built in a valley of about four leagues in extent, among the mountains of the great chain, which runs along the sea from Coro to Cumana. The inhabitants exceed 40,000.

Porto Cavello has a commodious harbour, and the population may be 7500; but the situation is unhealthy, and extremely dangerous to the crews of foreign vessels. Valencia contains about 8000 inhabitants, and its convenient situation may lead to great future advantages. Maracay is a beautiful new village in the rich vales of Aragoa, famous for the cultivation of chocolate. Tulmero, in the same vales, is another handsome town. Victoria contains about 8000 inhabitants. Coro has some commerce with Curazas, and a population of about 10,000.

The town of Cumana is the most ancient in the Caracas. The heat of the climate is very great, yet the population is computed at 24,000. Barcelona is founded on a plain, a league from the mouth of the river Neveri. The town is disagreeable, and only noted for breeding swine.

The isle of Margarita is little remarkable except as a military station for the invasion of the

Caracas.

Caracas. The chief town is Assumption, near the centre of the island.

The town of Maracaibo is in the province of that name, or the western shore of the lake, at the distance of six leagues from the sea, in a hot and dry climate. The inhabitants were about 22,000; but have been increased by the Spanish refugees from St. Domingo.

Truxillo was a flourishing town, but has greatly declined, and is chiefly noted for sweetmeats and confections made by the women. The tobacco of Varinas is highly celebrated, though not equal to that of Cumana. The town has a population of 10,000.

RIVERS.—Next to the Orinoco in the S. the chief rivers are the Apuri, joined at its confluence by the Portuguesa, which is followed by the Guarico. The tides on the northern coast are almost insensible, while on the eastern shores they are so strong as to require the notice of mariners.

LAKES.—The lake of Valencia is more pleasant than that of Maracaibo, and is more useful, though of far inferior size. It is about 40 miles in length, and 14 in breadth. The banks are fertile and the climate delightful.

RELIGION.—In Spanish America there are three tribunals of the inquisition, at Mexico, Lima, and Carthagenena. In thefe colonies the king is the head of the church. There are many missions, particularly that of Guiana, which has more than forty villages. The churches are always decent and sometimes elegant.

GOVERNMENT.—The governor of the Caracas is the representative of the monarch, but accountable to the Council of the Indies in Spain. Acts of despotism are rare, and a court of Enquiry is held for the redress of grievances.

## GUIANA.

BOUNDARIES.—The large and celebrated territory of Guiana is bounded by the river Orinoco on the N. and W. the line afterwards bending to the river Negro, which divides Guiana from Amazonia, or more properly Colonna. The southern boundary is strictly the great river Maranon. The eastern is the Atlantic Ocean. This interesting country is even at present little known; and contests have arisen concerning the course of the most important rivers. It is divided between the Spaniards, French, Dutch, and Portuguese.

## SPANISH GUIANA.

BOUNDARIES.—Spanish Guiana is bounded on the S. E. by the Dutch and French possessions, running parallel with the lake Parima, and the great chain of mountains called Tumucurag. The precise western boundary is the mouth of the river Yupura; though by some the Portuguese possessions are extended to the river Negro. The population is computed at only 34,000.

CHIEF CITY.– The town of San Tomé or Old Guiana was originally founded on the southern bank of the Orinoco, 50 leagues from its mouth; but

but being subject to attacks and insults, was transferred to a more remote position, about 90 leagues from the sea. There is here a special governor dependent on the captain general of Caracas; it is also the seat of a bishopric.

RIVERS.—The most remarkable feature of Spanish Guiana is the course of the river Orinoco. The mouths are of dangerous navigation; seven of them admit large vessels; but the chief is about six leagues in length, being the most southern, and in the direct course of the river. The isles of the Delta, which is of prodigious extent, are possessed by two independent tribes of Indians. The beauty and grandeur of the banks of the Orinoco surpass all description. The annual inundation begins in April and ends in August; and in the northern part sometimes extends for 20 or 30 leagues during a length of 200. The usual swell at San Tomé is 13 fathoms. In October the flood declines; and the river is lowest in February.

The river Caroni, running from S. to N. for nearly 100 leagues, preserves its clearness for half a league after it joins the Orinoco, having mostly run over a fine black sand.

# CHILI.

TILL the fifteenth century, the Peruvian empire extended from the equator to the tropic of Capricorn or confines of Chili, a delicious country extending for more than 1200 miles along the great

great ocean, protected by the vast belt of the Andes. The native Chilese were then divided into fifteen tribes, each ruled by its *ulmen* or chief. In consequence of an expedition against Chili, conducted by a Peruvian Prince, some tribes of the Chilese were won by persuasion, rather than subdued by force or fear, and the country as far as the river Rapel, where there still exists a Peruvian fortress, acknowledged the dominion of the Incas.

Thus on the arrival of the Spaniards in America, a part of the Chilese were subdued, while the other portion remained free, the genuine representatives of the ancient inhabitants.

## ARAUCANA.

NEARLY one half of Chili is possessed by the Araucans, who have vigourously defended their country against the further progress of the Spaniards.

EXTENT AND BOUNDARIES.—The Araucans inhabit a beautiful tract extending from the river Biobio, on the N. to that of Valdivia, on the S. bounded on the E. by the Andes, and on the W. by the ocean. The name is derived from the province Arauco, which, though the smallest of their state, has become the leading name of the country or nation; but they willingly receive the appellation of AUCAS or FREE MEN.

DIVISIONS.—The whole of Araucana from N. to S. is divided into four parallel districts, almost equal in size, styled by the inhabitants, the maritime,

time, the plain, the upland, and the mountainous; the last is possessed by the Puelches, formerly allies, but now united with the Araucans. Each of these is divided into five provinces; and each province has nine inferior districts.

CITIES.—There are no cities or towns, which the Araucans regard as prisons. Their habitations are mostly scattered over the country, on the paternal inheritances near the rivers.

RELIGION.—The Araucans acknowledge a supreme being, the author of all things, who is called PILLAN, or THE SPIRIT. They have neither temples, nor idols, nor priests; nor are sacrifices known; except during the prevalence of diseases, or on a treaty of peace. Christianity is tolerated throughout their domains, and the missionaries are well received, but conversions are very rare.

GOVERNMENT.—The government is aristocratical, and there are three orders of chiefs, who preside over the districts, according to their rank: all dignities are hereditary in the male line, and the chiefs are independent of each other, though confederated for the common good.

The Puelches of the mountains are more rude and savage than the other inhabitants. Their name signifies eastern men; they are tall of stature, fond of the chace, and often change their habitations.

## SPANISH CHILI.

EXTENT AND DIVISIONS.—The Spaniards are contented with that excellent tract of territory, which

which lies between the desert of Atacama and the river Biobio. This settlement is divided into 13 provinces. The Spaniards also possess Port Valdivia, in the country of the Cunchi; the archipelago of Chiloé; and the island of Juan Fernandez.

CITIES.—The chief cities are Santiago and Concepcion. They are well built, with the streets at right angles, commonly 36 feet wide. The houses are generally of one story, on account of the repeated earthquakes; but some of the new buildings are of stone and of two stories, such having often withstood the shocks as well as those of one. The Spaniards are mostly from the northern provinces, and are mingled with a few English, French, and Italians.

MOUNTAINS.—The grand belt of the Andes is here about 120 miles in breadth, with transverse ridges full of stupendous ruptures and precipices. The prodigious height of these mountains has not been ascertained, but the Spaniards and Chilese suppose them to be more than 20,000 feet above the sea.

Volcanoes abound in Chili, the most terrible being that of Peteroa, which, in 1762, opened a new crater, splitting a contiguous mountain into two parts, for the space of many miles. A tremendous noise was heard throughout the kingdom, unaccompanied with any earthquake. There are only two other volcanoes which do not belong to the chain of the Andes, a small one near the river Rapel, which only ejects smoke, and the great volcano of Villarica, so called from its vicinity to the lake of that name in Araucana.—This flaming mountain, which is seen at the distance of more than 150 miles, appears isolated, but is thought to be joined with the Andes, being at a small distance. The summit is covered with perpetual

perpetual snow; but the sides are shaded with the most enchanting forests, watered by innumerable chrystaline streams.

RIVERS AND LAKES.—The rivers, though sometimes considerable, have but a short course from the Andes to the ocean. There are several lakes, both fresh and salt, the two largest being in Araucana. The Lauquen, called Villarica by the Spaniards, is about 72 miles in circuit, with a beautiful conic hill in the centre. The Naheulgapi is about 80 miles in circumference, and in the centre is an island crowned with beautiful trees. This gives rise to a river of the same name, running towards the Atlantic; while from the first springs the river Tolten, which joins the Pacific.

MINERALS.—Chili is celebrated as one of the richest metallic regions. Lead is found of excellent quality, but little used. The mines of tin are yet more neglected; and iron, though abundant, is not allowed to be wrought in the Spanish colonies. The copper also is equal, if not superior, to any yet discovered. Silver is only found in the high and cold deserts of the Andes. The vein of this noble metal, on the skirts of the eastern chain of the plain of Uspallata, has been traced to the enormous length of ninety miles. The grand vein is always nine feet in thickness, and by many is supposed to extend to Potosi.

RELIGION.—Spanish Chili is divided into two vast bishoprics, Santiago and Concepcion, both suffragans of the archbishop of Lima. The cathedrals are served by canons; and the office of the inquisition has a commissary at Santiago.

GOVERNMENT.—Spanish Chili, a military province, is governed by an officer of rank, who assumes the titles of President, Governor, and Captain-General of the kingdom. He is wholly inde-

independent, except in cases of war, when he consults the Viceroy of Peru. In civil cases he presides in the Court of Audience in Santiago, where, as in all the Royal Audiences, justice is administered with singular integrity. In important cases an appeal lies to the supreme council of the Indies.

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## THE
# PORTUGUESE TERRITORY.

EXTENT.—The dominions in S. America, held by the small kingdom of Portugal, extend from the frontier of French Guiana, lat. 1°. 30′. N. to port St. Pedro, lat. 32°. S. or about 2300 miles; and the breadth from Cape St. Roque to the farthest settlement on the river of Amazons, equals, if it do not exceed that extent. This vast territory is still less known than the Spanish possessions, particularly the interior country, so absurdly called Amazonia, but more justly by the Spaniards, the land of the Missions.

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## BRAZIL.

THE greater part of this large territory derived its name from the wood, which was celebrated for centuries

centuries before the accidental discovery of this country by the Portuguese admiral, Cabral, in the year 1500.

Divisions.—Brazil is now divided into sixteen captaincies or provinces; one of the most remarkable is Rio de Janeiro, the governor of which alone retains the title of viceroy of the Brazils; the discovery and improvement of the diamond and gold mines, about 100 leagues to the N. W. having secured to Janeiro a decided preponderance.

Population.—The population of this large portion of S. America has not been accurately detailed; but it is supposed that it cannot exceed one million.

Cities and towns.—The city of San Salvador or Bahia, was long the most commercial and may still be regarded as the capital city of Portuguese America. It is founded on a rocky and unequal situation, often 600 feet above the sea, and mostly impracticable for carriages. The inhabitants have been recently computed at 100,000, including the suburbs, 30,000 being whites. Bahia has now yielded to Rio Janeiro, or St. Sebastian. The harbour of Rio Janeiro is excellent and capacious, and surrounded by a fertile country. It is protected by the castle of Santa Cruz, erected on a large rock of granite. On the W. is the city, built on a tongue of land, the hills and rocks behind being covered with woods; yet the situation is said to be unhealthy. Other cities are Para and Cayta near the estuary of the Maranon; Parnamboco, Sergippe, Paraiba, Villa Grande, &c. the chief settlements being thinly scattered along the shore.

Rivers and mountains.—The chief river of this extensive country is the Maranon, already described; the other grand rivers are the Tocantin

cantin and St. Francisco, of which there are no accurate accounts. The chief mountainous range passes westward from the government of St. Paul, but there are several other chains in the northern provinces, which have not been described.

Religion.—The religion of these settlements is necessarily the Roman Catholic; but the natives are some of the most barbarous savages.

Government.—This important territory, since the emigration of the Royal family, may be considered as the seat of the Portuguese government, and if some more regular and liberal constitution be adopted by the court, may become one of the finest regions of the globe; but in the present state of the European continent, the relation of Portugal to its American colony must be considered as contingent, and possibly may be of no long continuance.

## PORTUGUESE GUIANA.

Extent.—The Portuguese portion of Guiana is still less known than the Spanish. Its length may be computed from the mouth of the Aroware to the vicinity of the Rio Negro, about 700 miles, while the medial breadth, from the mountains Tumucurag to the Maranon, is about 280. The greater part of this extensive and valuable country is held by savage tribes, whose very names are little known; but the Portuguese, from their convenient station on the mouth of the Tocantin river, have opened considerable intercourse with the shores of the Maranon, and founded several stations as far as the Rio Negro.

FRENCH

## FRENCH GUIANA.

THE French settlements in Guiana extend along the coast, from the mouth of a small river called the Mana, to another called Arawary. On the S. the line seems arbitrary; but the whole length does not exceed 360 miles, by 240 in breadth. The chief town is on a small isle called Cayano, from which the whole territory is frequently called Cayenne. In the town are about 1200 white inhabitants exclusive of the garrison. This colony seems always to have been neglected by the parent country.

## DUTCH GUIANA.

DUTCH Guiana is to the N. W. of the French settlement, and is often called Surinam, from a river of that name, on which the capital is situated. The length is about 350 miles, along the shores of the Atlantic, but the breadth is only 160.

The chief towns are Paramaribo, on the western bank of the Surinam, also called the Zeeland river, and New Middleburg, near the north-western extremity of the colony: Demerara is a settlement on a river of that name. The white inhabitants of the capital are reckoned at 1800. The largest river is the Esquivo, which receives the short stream of the Demerara. The wet and dry seasons alternate for three months.

The natives are of a reddish brown or copper colour, like the other American tribes. Those towards the coaſt are Caribs.

# NATIVE TRIBES.

AMONG the natives, the Peruvians are by far the most interesting people, having in some inſtances advanced nearer to civilization than the Mexicans. The government of the Incas, or Peruvian monarchs, was a kind of theocracy, and the inhabitants revered a divine descent, not claimed by the Mexicans. The religion of the Peruvians was that of love and benevolence, while the Mexicans, in their cruel rites, seem to have been wholly influenced by the fear of malignant deities. At present there are no marks of their ancient advancement in the manners of the Peruvian natives.

The Apibons are a warlike tribe, consisting of about 5000, on the Rio Grande, which joins the Paraguay, near its union with the Parana. They are chiefly cavalry, securing and taming the wild horses introduced by the Spaniards. They have a singular practice of eradicating the hair over their foreheads, so as to produce the appearance of baldness, but their features resemble the European, and the nose is commonly of an aquiline form. They have no idea of a supreme deity, but acknowledge an evil demon, whom they commonly attempt to flatter, by calling him their uncle.

The Worros are another maritime tribe; but the Aruacs are the most distinguished for elegance of form, and mildness of disposition.

The extremities of S. America may be regarded as independent. The natives of this region are the Puelches, divided into three or four tribes,

tribes, the most southern being the Teheuls, the proper Patagonians. Falkner says, that a cazic or chief with whom he was acquainted, was seven feet and some inches in height. They may be called the Tatars of S. America, being roving warriors, but courteous and humane. These tribes have hereditary cazics, and they sometimes choose a commander in chief, whence they are more formidable to the Spaniards than the northern tribes.

The rivers that wash this country, all come from the high mountains of Yacanto or Sacanto, Champachin, and Achala, on the W. of Cordova, which are little inferior in height to the Andes of Chili, and may be considered as branches of those of Peru. There is an immense tract of territory impregnated with nitre, about 600 miles in length by 150 in breadth, on the S. and W. of the river Parana. The singular aspect of Patagonia, delineated with innumerable streams, ending in little lakes, may well appear foreign to the course of nature, but this country has many peculiarities.

# ISLANDS,

belonging to

# SOUTH AMERICA.

THE isle of JUAN FERNANDEZ, to the W. of this continent, so called from the first discoverer, is only about four leagues in length. It has an anchoring place in the northern coast, which is diversified with many beautiful kinds of trees, but the southern part is precipitous and barren. Towards

Towards the southern extremity, in the gulph of Chomos, is the isle of CHILOE, about 140 miles in length, by 30 in breadth, but almost divided in the middle by bays or creeks. It is said to be well peopled with Spaniards, mulattoes, and converted savages.

In the gulph of Trinidada, is the island of ST. MARTIN, in which there seem to be some Spanish settlements or factories.

Not far to the S. begins that broken series of wintry islands called TERRA DEL FEUGO, from two or more volcanoes, which vomit flames amidst the dreary wastes of ice. It is described, as divided by narrow straits, into eleven islands of considerable size.

The island called STATENLAND, is separated from the Terra del Feugo by the strait of Le Maire. So much more severe is the cold in the Antarctic region, that these countries only in lat. 55°. or that of the N. of England, are more frozen than Lapland, lat. 70°.

To the N. E. of these are the FALKLAND ISLANDS. There are two of considerable size, each about 40 miles square. The soil is marshy, and even in summer there are perpetual storms. The Spaniards seem only to retain a small factory in the north.

To the S. E. of the Falkland islands is that of GEORGIA, explored by Captain Cook, which may be called a land of ice.

Still farther to the S. E. are, if possible, more dreary regions, properly styled the SOUTHERN THULE, the appellation of Sandwich islands being already bestowed on a very different country. These islands may be denominated the southern throne of Winter, being a mass of black rocks, covered with ice and snow.

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